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PRAYERS ANCIENT AND MODERN

ADAPTED TO FAMILY USE

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SEELEY, JACKSON AND HALLIDAY, FLEET STREET,
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PREFACE.

VARIOUS attempts have been made, at different periods, to bring into use the devotional exercises of eminent men of former ages. If, however, ancient prayers are given unaltered, they are found, in most instances, to contain passages which, from their peculiarity of thought or style, are unsuited to the present day. The redundancies of some, the quaintness of others, the involved sentences, and often the florid phraseology, render them unfit for general use. Such a collection, although of the highest interest in itself, would be of little service as a manual of family devotion. On the other hand, a mere paraphrase, or translation of an old prayer into modern phraseology, would offend against good taste and right feeling. A happy medium has recently been shown, in the case of the favourite hymn, "Jerusalem the

Golden," which consists of certain passages selected and freely translated, from a poem of 3,000 lines, written in the twelfth century.

These remarks, however, chiefly apply to the older pieces of the following collection. In these, selection and adaptation has been the rule; though the author's text has been, as far as possible, adhered to. The names given are those which are commonly attached to the prayers; but there are cases in which the same prayer appears in various forms among the works of various writers, and the real authorship is matter of doubt.

The prayers of more recent times are given with closer adherence to the text, though even here the quaintness of the Elizabethan days and the diffuseness of more modern writers have been occasionally pruned down. The liberties taken have been generally confined to abridgment, the exclusion of obsolete expressions, redundant imagery, and figures of speech which to modern ears would be scarcely intelligible. The object kept in view throughout has been to produce a volume of *Prayers adapted to Family Use.*

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FIRST WEEK.

ANCIENT LITURGIES, AUGUSTINE, ANSELM, À KEMPIS, ALCUIN.

SUNDAY MORNING.

WE yield Thee thanks, O Lord our God, Father of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for that Thou hast sheltered, assisted, and defended us, and hast brought us through the past time of our life, and hast guided us to this hour, and dost vouchsafe to receive us, who ask pardon of our sins, and mercy for all Thy people. And we beseech Thee, O Lord, to keep us this holy day, and all the time of our life, without sin; with all joy, health, and safety; with all reverence and

sanctification. But all envy, fear, and temptation, every work of the devil and device of the wicked, keep from us, O God, and from Thy Holy Church throughout the world.

Give unto us, we beseech Thee, that which is good and profitable; and forgive us those things wherein we have sinned against Thee, in thought, word, or deed; and forsake us not, O God of our salvation, nor lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one and all his works, through the grace and pity and loving-kindness of Thine only-begotten Son.

We pray Thee, that Thou wouldst keep our Sovereign in perpetual peace, strength, and righteousness. Be Thou, O Lord, her defence, and give her the victory over all her enemies; that we also in the tranquillity of her days may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Bless, O Lord, and preserve all the pastors of Thy Church; all bishops, priests, and deacons; that they may fulfil the offices entrusted to their charge according to Thy holy and blessed will, rightly dividing the word of

truth. Grant to them peace, health, and salvation; and the prayers which they make for us, and we for them, receive into Thy holy place. Let the enemies of Thy Church be speedily subdued and vanquished, through the grace and mercy of Thy Son, our Lord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, co-eternal Word of the Father, who didst become like unto us in all things, sin only excepted, for the salvation of our race, and didst send forth Thy holy disciples and apostles to preach and teach the gospel of Thy kingdom, and to cure all sickness and all infirmity among Thy people; do Thou Thyself, O Lord, send out Thy light and Thy truth, and enlighten the eyes of our minds to the understanding of Thy divine oracles. Give us grace to be hearers of them, and not hearers only, but doers of the word, that we may bring forth good fruit abundantly, and be counted worthy of the kingdom of heaven. And to Thee, O Lord our God, we ascribe glory and thanksgiving, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, now and for ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE GREEK CHURCH.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who dwellest in the high and holy place, who through Thy Son, Jesus Christ, didst give unto us the word of knowledge for the acknowledgment of Thy glory and of Thy Name, which He manifested unto us, look down Thyself upon us, and deliver us from all ignorance and evil works; and grant that we may entirely fear Thee and perfectly love Thee, and may be enlightened with the light of Thy countenance. Be merciful unto us and hear our supplications, and keep us without blame before Thee, that we may be holy in body and soul, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing, but may be perfect and complete, wanting nothing.

O Thou that art our helper, the Mighty One, Thou that respectest not the persons of men, be Thou the help of Thy people, whom Thou hast purchased with the precious blood

of Christ. Thou art our fortress and defender, and none can pluck us out of Thy hand. There is none other God like unto Thee; in Thee is our trust. Sanctify us through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth. Preserve us from all sickness and all infirmity, from every fall, from all injury and deceit, from the fear of the enemy, from the arrow that flieth by day, and the mischief that walketh in darkness; and vouchsafe unto us the eternal life which is in Christ Thy Son, our Lord and Saviour.

O Father Almighty, we give Thee thanks that Thou hast called us unto godliness and to the remission of sins; that the name of Christ has been called upon us, and that we have been made members of Thy family. O Thou that hast separated us from fellowship with the wicked, unite us with them that are hallowed to Thee. Establish us in the truth by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit; that which we know not, do Thou reveal; that which is wanting in us, do Thou fill up; in that which we know, do Thou strengthen us.

Guard continually the ministers of Thy Church blameless in Thy service. Keep

evermore kings in peace, rulers in righteousness, and send us health and fruitful seasons. Scatter the nations that delight in war; turn again that which has gone astray; sanctify Thy people, confirm the weak, instruct the ignorant, and bring us all to the kingdom of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE GREEK CHURCH.

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, in faith and trust in Thy life-giving passion, death, and burial, in Thy resurrection from the dead, and ascension into heaven, and looking for Thy second coming, to judge the quick and the dead, we sinners do beseech Thee, that Thou wouldst not deal with us after our sins, nor reward us according to our iniquities; but according to Thy clemency and great mercy wouldst grant us heavenly blessings; for Thy people and Thine inheritance make their supplications unto Thee. Have mercy upon us, O Lord God. Heavenly Father, send down Thy Holy Spirit upon us; sanctifying our souls and bodies, and strengthening us unto all good works.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to be gracious to Thy universal Church. Replenish her with the gifts of Thy Holy Spirit; and visit her with Thy salvation. Think upon all the

bishops and pastors of Thy flock; may they rightly divide the word of truth; and make full proof of their ministry.

Remember also, all whom Thou hast appointed to be rulers on the earth, especially Thy servant our Sovereign; and grant that under her dominion we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty.

Think upon all that travel by sea or land; all prisoners and captives, and all that are sick or afflicted; and do Thou speedily help and deliver them. Bring back also, we pray Thee, into the way of truth, all who err, or are deceived.

Heal the divisions of Thy people; and grant us Thy peace and love, O Thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth.

Bless the year with Thy goodness; for the eyes of all look unto Thee, and Thou givest them their meat in due season; Thou openest Thine hand, and fillest all things living with plenteousness.

Grant unto us that we may be numbered with Thy saints, in glory everlasting; and may we enter with them into the rest which remaineth for Thy people; whence sorrow

and sighing flee away; and where the light of Thy countenance always shineth. And, with that innumerable company, which standeth before the throne, may we sing continual praises to Thy most blessed name, O Lord Jesus, our Saviour and our Redeemer; who art, with the Father, and the Holy Ghost the Comforter, one God, blessed for ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE GREEK CHURCH.

MONDAY EVENING.

GREAT art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is Thy power, and Thy wisdom is infinite. Thee would we praise without ceasing. Thou callest us to delight in Thy praise; for Thou hast made us for Thyself, and our hearts find no rest until we rest in Thee.

Almighty Father, enter Thou our hearts, and so fill us with Thy love, that forsaking all evil desires, we may embrace Thee our only good. Show unto us, for Thy mercies' sake, O Lord our God, what Thou art unto us. Say unto our souls, I am thy salvation. So speak that we may hear. Our hearts are before Thee; open Thou our ears; let us hasten after Thy voice, and take hold on Thee. Hide not Thy face from us, we beseech Thee, O Lord.

Enlarge Thou the narrowness of our souls, that Thou mayest enter in. Repair the ruinous

mansions, that Thou mayest dwell there. Cleanse that within which doth offend Thine eyes. To whom should we cry save unto Thee? Lord, cleanse us from our secret faults, and deliver not Thy servants into the power of the enemy. We believe, and therefore do we speak. We confess against ourselves our transgressions unto Thee; forgive, O God, the iniquity of our hearts. We contend not in judgment with Thee, who art the truth, lest we deceive ourselves. If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall abide it?

Yet suffer us, O Lord, our heavenly Father, to call upon Thy mercy, though we be dust and ashes. Despise us not, O God our Saviour, but return and have compassion upon us, for from Thee are all good things, and from Thee is all our health. Hear us, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, now and for ever. Amen.

AUGUSTINE.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, eternal and omnipresent God, blessed for ever, we commit unto Thee, for this day, and our whole lives, our bodies and our souls, our thoughts and affections, our words and actions; beseeching Thee to take care of us, and to guard us from the dangers and temptations which continually beset us; from all evil, and especially from sin.

Teach us to do the thing that pleaseth Thee, for Thou art our God. Give us a right judgment of all things, that we may ask such things as Thou delightest to give, and such as are best for us to receive. Put away from us all hurtful things, and give us such things as are profitable for us. O Thou blessed Physician, we pray Thee to heal the wounds of our souls. Put Thy fear into our hearts, that we may not depart from Thee. Grant us souls to love Thee; understandings

to apprehend Thee; ears to hear Thy voice; eyes ever intent to see Thee. Have pity upon us, O Lord, and look down upon us from the throne of Thy majesty; scatter the darkness of our souls, and enlighten us with the beams of Thy Holy Spirit.

Give us wisdom to discern between good and evil; that we may know the things which belong to our peace. Above all, we entreat of Thee full and free remission of all our sins; for Thou, O Lord Jesus, hast died to purchase it. May we, therefore, find effectual propitiation and free access to Thee, in all time of necessity and distress of soul; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment. Lord, we pray Thee to bestow upon us everlasting life, not for our merits, but for Thy manifold and great mercy: upon which we cast ourselves, as the only refuge and hope of sinners. Lord Jesus, hear us; heavenly Father, be merciful unto us; Holy Spirit, vouchsafe to comfort us; and to Thy name, O blessed and holy Trinity, shall be praise and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

AUGUSTINE.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O THOU who art the Only Life; Thou by whom all things live; Thou biddest us to seek Thee; and art ready to be found. Thou biddest us to knock, and art ready to open. To depart from Thee is to fall into eternal death; to return to Thee is salvation; to abide in Thee is security and strength. To know Thee is life; to serve Thee is perfect freedom; to praise and adore Thee is the joy of Thy people. We worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O holy Lord God Almighty.

We beseech Thee, O Thou ever blessed Trinity, to come unto us, to abide with us, to make these our hearts a habitation for Thy Divine Majesty. O Father Almighty; O Lord Jesus the Son of the Father; O Holy Spirit who proceedest from the Father and the Son, keep, we pray Thee, these creatures

of Thy hand; who put their trust in Thee, and take refuge in Thy mercy. Guard us with Thy mercy and Thy power, now and at all times, and so keep us from evil both in body and soul, that our enemy may find no way of approach to hurt us.

Thou, O our Father, art the Guardian and Defender of all who trust in Thee. Without Thy protection we can find no safety; without Thy Almighty power we cannot resist the might of those who seek to do us harm. Thou art God, and there is none beside Thee; Thou art great and doest wondrous things; honour and praise are Thine.

To Thee the lowly in heart, to Thee the souls of the righteous, to Thee angels and archangels, fall down in continual adoration. Help us, O Lord our God, our Life and our Strength, to praise and celebrate Thee, although we be unworthy. Shed abroad Thy love in our hearts; open Thou our lips; may our souls be filled with Thy praise; and our tongues sing of Thy glory.

Grant us the grace of Thy blessed Spirit, that we may continue stedfast in the faith;

and bring forth fruits agreeable to the same; that so, by true faith and holy obedience, Thou mayest bring us finally to everlasting salvation, through the merits of our Lord and Saviour. Unto whom, with the Father and the ever-blessed Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

AUGUSTINE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, who knowest our necessities before we ask, we confess unto Thee our sins, and acknowledge Thy mercy, beseeching Thee to free us wholly, and to perfect that Thou hast begun, that we, ceasing to be miserable in ourselves, may be blessed in Thee.

O Lord our God, give ear unto our prayer, and let Thy mercy hearken unto our desires. We would offer unto Thee the service of our thoughts and tongues; do Thou give unto us that which we may present unto Thee. We are poor and needy, but Thou art rich unto all that call upon Thee.

Cleanse, we beseech Thee, both our hearts and lips from all presumption and falsehood. Let Thy Scriptures be our pure delight, and give us grace so to read them and speak of

them that we deceive not, nor be deceived. Hearken unto us, O Lord our God, Thou Light of the blind, and Strength of the weak; yea also, Light of those that see, and Strength of the strong. The day is Thine, and the night is Thine; grant us space to meditate in the hidden things of Thy law, and close it not against us who knock. Let us not search into it in vain; but perfect us, O Lord, and reveal unto us Thy holy mysteries. Give unto us that which we desire, for the desire cometh from Thee; forsake not, we pray Thee, Thine own gift.

We ask not of Thee, O Father, silver and gold, honour and glory, nor the pleasures of the flesh, but do Thou grant us grace to seek Thy kingdom and Thy righteousness, and do Thou add unto us things necessary for the body and for this life. Behold, O Lord, our desire; may it be pleasing in Thy sight. We present our petition unto Thee through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is at Thy right hand, our Mediator and Advocate, through whom Thou soughtest us that we might seek Thee; Thy Word, through whom Thou madest us and all things; Thy only begotten, through

whom Thou calledst us to adoption; who intercedeth with Thee for us, and in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. To Him, with Thyself, and the Holy Spirit, be all honour, praise, and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

AUGUSTINE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God, grant us grace to desire Thee with our whole heart; that, so desiring, we may seek and find Thee; and so finding Thee, may love Thee; and loving Thee, may hate those sins, from which Thou hast redeemed us.

Grant unto us, we pray Thee, repentant hearts, contrite spirits; eyes that can weep for sin; hands that can help the needy. Quench in us, O thou Lord of our life, all sinful desires; and kindle, instead thereof, the fire of holy love. O our Redeemer, take from us the spirit of pride, and enrich us with the treasure of Thy humility. Cleanse our hearts from the evil passions of anger, malice, envy, and all uncharitableness; and make us patient, kind, and tender-hearted. Grant unto us a perfect faith, a sure hope, and a love that never faileth.

Preserve us, we beseech Thee, from all

vanity, inconstancy of mind, and wavering of heart; from all evil-speaking, slander, and falsehood. Deliver us from the desire of riches; from ambition and vain-glory, from hypocrisy and flattery, from contempt of the poor, and oppression of the weak.

Take from us all frowardness of heart, all spirit of boasting; all idleness and sloth; all pride, wrath, unthankfulness, unholiness.

And, O merciful God, fill our hearts, we pray Thee, with the graces of Thy Holy Spirit,—with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Teach us to love those who hate us; to pray for those who despitefully use us; that we may be the children of Thee, our Father, who makest Thy sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendest rain on the just and on the unjust.

In adversity, grant us grace to be patient; in prosperity, keep us humble; may we guard the door of our lips; may we lightly esteem the pleasures of the world, and thirst after heavenly things.

Thy coming, O Lord, Thou Judge of all, will be manifest. Thou wilt call to the

heavens from above, and to the earth, that Thou mayest judge Thy people. In Thy presence shall all iniquity be discovered, and every secret sin made known. O God, our strength, no flesh shall be justified in Thy sight. Who then shall stand before Thee? O Lord Jesus, our only refuge, our Saviour and our Deliverer, our hope is in Thee. Thou art our saving health. Thy lips have called us, and we have heard Thy voice. Thou hast guided us with Thy counsel; wilt Thou not also bring us to Thy glory? We beseech Thee, Almighty Father, we beseech Thee, O well-beloved Son of God, our merciful Redeemer, we beseech Thee, O Holy Spirit the Comforter, so lead and guide us, that at the last we may be brought unto Thy holy hill, and to Thy dwelling. Amen.

ANSELM.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O LORD JESUS, great is Thy goodness to them that seek Thee. Thou redeemest the captives; Thou art the Saviour of the lost, the strength of the weary, the freedom of the oppressed, the consolation of them that are cast down, the crown of the conquering, the reward and joy of Thy saints. O mighty God, may all things that are in heaven above and in the earth beneath bless Thee, for Thou art great, and great is Thy name. When Thou shalt come in Thy power and glory, raise us up, we beseech Thee, among Thy chosen, that in our flesh we may see Thy brightness, and be filled with the joy of Thy countenance.

O Holy Spirit, most bounteous Source of all good, we humbly implore Thee that in those things wherein through our frailty we have failed to understand Thy truth, or have erred from Thy holy commandments, through

the wantonness of the flesh, Thou wilt deign to enlighten us with Thy visitation; so that being guided and corrected by Thee, and having attained to forgiveness through Thy help, whom in the dangerous sea of this life we have called to our aid, we may be brought without shipwreck to the haven of everlasting rest.

And, O Father most merciful, who in the beginning didst create us, and by the Passion of Thine only-begotten Son hast created us anew, work in us now, we beseech Thee, both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. And, forasmuch as we are weak, and can do no good thing of ourselves, grant us Thy grace and heavenly benediction, that in whatsoever work we engage we may do all to Thy honour and glory; and that being kept from sin, and daily increasing in good works, so long as we live in the body we may ever show forth some service to Thee; and after our departure may receive pardon of all our sins, and attain eternal life, through Him who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

ANSELM.

THURSDAY EVENING.

LOOK down, we beseech Thee, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, upon the sacrifice which Thou hast provided for us in Thy most dearly beloved Son, by whose death it hath pleased Thy goodness to quicken us, and in His blood to wash us. Remember Thy tender mercies, O Lord, and Thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old, and stretch forth Thy right hand to Thy creatures who strive to come unto Thee. Help Thou our weakness, and seeing that without Thee we cannot come unto Thee, draw us with Thy love. And forasmuch as without Thee we are not able to please Thee, make us well-pleasing and acceptable in Thy sight. Deliver us not over to Thine enemies, but keep us to Thyself. Complete in us that Thou hast begun, and confirm that Thou hast wrought.

Let not our adversaries prevail against us, but let them be confounded with the multitude of Thy mercies. Let the brightness of Thy presence drive away from us the spirits of darkness. Break asunder our chains, and lead us forth from captivity, from death and misery into Thy liberty and light.

O Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten us with Thy most holy faith, strengthen us with Thy most certain hope, and quicken us with Thine infinite love. Bow down and humble us, and guard us with Thy reverence and fear. Let us not depart empty from before Thy face, but obtain whatsoever by Thine inspiration we shall ask, according as Thou hast promised unto them that seek Thee. Through the power of Thine almightiness, whereby all things were made, speak Thou the word, and all that is depraved in us shall be made new.

O almighty and merciful Father, who pourest Thy benefits upon us, forgive the unthankfulness with which we have requited Thy goodness. We have remained before Thee with dead and senseless hearts, neither shaken by fear, nor moved with grief, nor

confounded with shame, nor kindled with love of Thy gentle and enduring goodness. Turn Thou us, O merciful Father, and so shall we be turned. There is none else from whom we may receive love and fear, and grief and shame, unless from Thy overflowing mercy Thou pour out Thy grace upon us. Make us with our whole heart to hunger and thirst after Thee, with all our longing to desire Thee. Make us with our whole heart to serve Thee alone, and with all our zeal to seek those things which are well-pleasing in Thy sight, for the sake of Thine only-begotten Son, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

ANSELM.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, our redemption and our salvation, we praise Thee, and give Thee thanks; and though we be unworthy of Thy benefits, and cannot offer unto Thee due devotion, yet let Thy loving-kindness fill up that which our weakness endeavoureth. Before Thee, O Lord, is all our desire, and whatsoever our heart rightly willeth, it is of Thy gift. Grant that we may attain to love Thee even as Thou commandest. Let not Thy gift be unfruitful in us, which of Thine own goodness Thou hast given us. Perfect that Thou hast begun; give that which Thou hast made us to long after. Convert Thou our lukewarmness into fervent love of Thee.

O blessed Lord and Saviour, who hast commanded us to love one another, the greatness of Thy benefit surpasseth all return, save that from our heart we obey Thy

commandments. Grant us grace that having received Thine undeserved bounty, we may love every man in Thee and for Thee. We implore Thy clemency for all; but especially for the friends whom Thy love has given to us. Love Thou them, O Thou fountain of love, and make them to love Thee with all their heart, with all their mind, and with all their soul; that those things only which are pleasing to Thee they may will, and speak, and do. And though our prayer is cold, because our charity is so little fervent, yet Thou art rich in mercy. Measure not to them Thy goodness by the dulness of our devotion; but as Thy kindness surpasseth all human affection, so let Thy hearing transcend our prayer. Do Thou to them what is expedient for them, according to Thy will, that they, being always and everywhere ruled and protected by Thee, may attain in the end to everlasting life; and to Thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and praise for ever and ever. Amen.

ANSELM.

FRIDAY EVENING.

GREAT and marvellous are Thy works, O Lord God Almighty; just and true are Thy ways, thou King of saints. How shall we appear before Thee? Thou chargest Thine angels with folly, and the heavens are not clean in Thy sight. Surely it becometh us to be humble, who are but dust and ashes.

There is no holiness, O Lord, if Thou withdraw Thine hand. Wisdom profiteth not, unless Thou direct it. Strength is but weakness, unless Thou preserve it. Watchfulness availeth nothing, unless Thou watch with us. Left to ourselves, we sink and perish; only when Thou visitest us, do we rise up and live. We are weak in ourselves, but strong in Thee; we are cold, till Thou warmest us with the warmth of life.

Blessed Jesus, grant us Thy grace; may it work with us, and in us, and continue with

us to the end. Teach us to desire always that which is acceptable to Thee. Grant us to rest in Thee, and to enjoy in Thee that peace which the world cannot give.

Lord, as Thou wast patient in Thy life on earth, always doing the will of Thy Father, teach us also to do and suffer what Thou pleasest, and to strive to profit by all the troubles of this present life. The path of this life has been sanctified by Thy footsteps, and through Thee the weak are made strong. The narrow way, though painful, has been made plain and easy, since Thou didst condescend to tread it on our behalf. Thy life is our light; and following the example of Thy holy patience, we would press on towards Thee, who art our crown. Enable us by Thy grace to do that which seems by nature impossible. Teach us to glory in tribulations also, knowing that to suffer according to Thy will worketh patience, and patience, experience, and experience, hope; even that hope which maketh not ashamed.

Thou, O Lord our God, art the only, the supremely Good. Thou alone art the Most High; Thou art also the most gracious and

merciful. Make our hearts to rise above all the gifts and creatures of Thine hand, and to rest in Thee alone.

O Lord Jesus, the brightness of the eternal glory, and the consolation of contrite and weary souls, refresh us with the light of Thy presence; set our hearts at liberty, and let the light of Thy countenance shine upon our souls. For there is none like unto Thee, O God, there is none that can do the wonders which Thou doest. Thy Word is very good, O Lord, therefore Thy servants love it. Praise and glory be unto Thee, O Thou Eternal Son of the Father: let our lips, and our souls, and all that is within us, praise and bless Thy holy name, for ever and ever. Amen.

THOMAS A KEMPIS.

SATURDAY MORNING.

LORD, what is man, that Thou art mindful of him, or the son of man, that Thou regardest him? We are less than nothing in Thy sight, and in us there dwelleth no good thing.

But Thou, O Lord, changest not, and therefore are we not consumed. Our only safety is to glory in Thee, to trust in Thee, to rejoice in Thee. Let Thy name be praised, let Thy work be magnified: let Thy holy name be blessed and praised. O Thou who art Truth and Mercy, to Thee be honour, power, and glory, for ever and ever.

Lord Jesus, enlighten us with the brightness of Thine inner light, and chase away all darkness from our hearts and understandings. Restrain our wandering thoughts and desires, and keep us near to Thyself. Send out Thy light and Thy truth, that they may lead us to Thy holy hill, and to Thy

dwelling. Soften our hard hearts with the dews of Thy grace; water them that they may bring forth good fruit. Raise our hearts, which grovel in the dust, and are ofttimes oppressed with a sense of sin, and enable us to fix our affections on things above.

Preserve us, O most holy Lord God, from the cares of this life; that our feet be not entangled by them: and deliver us from spiritual hindrances and temptations, that we be not wearied and cast down. Let not flesh and blood prevail over us: let not the world and the things of the world deceive us: keep us from the power and malice of the devil. Rather than all this world's allurements, give us the blessed unction of Thy Holy Spirit; and drive from our hearts the love of worldly things, by pouring into them the love of Thy holy name.

Confirm us in Thy ways, O Lord, by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Strengthen us with might in the inner man; so that no trouble or temptation may draw us away from Thee.

Give us, O Lord, the wisdom which cometh from above; and which teaches us to seek

Thee above all things, and which enables to find Thee. Grant us to desire and love Thee supremely; to see all things as Thou seest them, and to esteem them as Thou esteemest them. Let Thy grace enable us to resist the seductions of prosperity, and to bear with patience the storms of adversity.

O Light eternal, transcending all created suns, cause Thy bright beams to shine into our hearts. Purify, warm, enlighten, and quicken our souls with all their powers: so that they may find their rest, their joy, in Thee.

The days of this present life are short and evil, full of troubles and sorrows: when wilt Thou bring the reign of Satan to an end: and grant to us to walk at liberty, without trials or temptations, seeing Thy face, and wearing Thy likeness? Until then, succour us, O Thou eternal Truth; come unto us, O heavenly Love; draw our affections away from earthly things, and fix them upon Thyself. Blessed are they, O Lord, whom Thou choosest, and whom Thou causest to approach unto Thee.

THOMAS À KEMPIS.

SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, the fountain of all goodness, who knowest the thoughts of our hearts, we confess unto Thee that we have sinned against Thee and done evil in Thy sight. But Thy pity exceedeth the greatness of our sins, and in Thy sure mercy is our hope. Wash us, we beseech Thee, from the stains of our past sins, and give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things, and to give no heed to their enticements for the time to come; so that being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth worthy fruits of repentance.

Grant unto us, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit, that we may seek Thee with our whole heart; and desiring such things as are well-pleasing in Thy sight, may obtain our petitions. Endue us with temperance, chastity, purity in heart and lips; give us patience, long-suffering, meekness, kindness, spiritual joy, and holiness

of life. Grant that we, giving no occasion of offence, but living in all uprightness and simplicity, may follow after those things that make for peace. Put far from us all hypocrisy; give us true humility, unfeigned contrition of heart, and full amendment of life. Deliver our tongues from all falsehood and profaneness, from murmuring and evil-speaking, from envious and vain conversation. Set a watch on our mouths, and keep the door of our lips.

Give unto us a right judgment in all things, that we may discern between good and evil. Stir up, we pray Thee, the dulness and sloth of our minds, and grant that with strenuous perseverance we may go forward in the way of Thy commandments. Bestow upon us a right faith, a sure hope, a perfect charity. Pour into our hearts the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and godly fear.

O eternal Light, shine into our hearts. O eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. O eternal Power, be Thou our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us.

Grant unto us that with all our hearts, and minds, and strength we may evermore seek Thy face; and finally bring us in Thine infinite mercy to Thy holy presence. So strengthen our weakness that, following in the footsteps of Thy blessed Son, we may obtain Thy mercy, and enter into Thy promised joy. Grant these petitions for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

ALCUIN.

SECOND WEEK.

ERASMUS, LUDOV. VIVES, MELANCTHON, CRANMER, BECON.

SUNDAY MORNING.

MOST GRACIOUS FATHER, who, dwelling on high, in the light which no man can approach unto, art attentive unto the prayers of Thy children still sojourning on earth, we pray that Thy holy name may be so made known throughout the world, that all men, seeing Thy grace and goodness, and their own unworthiness, may glory only in Thee, who art the only source and centre of glory.

And, seeing that we have constantly to strive against the world, the flesh, and the devil, we earnestly entreat Thee, that Thy kingdom may come; and that as in heaven

all things worship and serve Thee, so, on earth, Thy Spirit may reign within our hearts, making us to receive Thee joyfully as our King, and so to attain to peace and blessedness.

And as in heaven, where Thou dwellest, there is no will contrary to Thine, so may we, and all Thy creatures upon earth, gladly obey Thy commands; knowing that what Thou willest is always good, and that nothing can be good but that which pleaseth Thee.

And since we depend wholly for temporal things on Thy kind and bounteous Providence, be pleased, O Thou good and tender Father, to take care of us, and give us, as Thou shalt see fit, whatsoever our necessities require. But chiefly, and before all other things, do Thou feed our souls with spiritual food; with food convenient for us; whether of milk, if Thou seest it best, or of strong meat, for those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

The meat, O heavenly Father, that giveth life indeed, is the knowledge of Thee and of Thy dear Son, sent unto us in Thy holy

Scriptures, and by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, so that we may grow up unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. This is that bread which cometh down from heaven, of which, if a man eat, in verity and truth, he shall live for ever.

Vouchsafe to bestow some portion of Thy heavenly bread upon us day by day, that the hunger and thirst for earthly things may diminish in us continually. And, although as long as we dwell in mortal flesh we sin daily, through our natural infirmity, still let us not fall from Thy grace and favour, but strengthen us, that we may continue in that peace which Thy Son Jesus Christ has made for us by the blood of His cross.

Grant, also, that we, remembering how Thou hast mercifully pardoned our misdeeds, may frankly forgive all who trespass against us, and may maintain constant peace and charity among ourselves. Finally, knowing how our adversary the devil ceaseth not in his efforts to draw us back again into his bondage, we cry unto Thee to keep us from his assaults, and so to preserve us in the fellowship of Thy dear Son, that we may

come, at last, to that blessed life, where neither sin or temptation shall any longer trouble us. Grant this, heavenly Father, for Thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ERASMUS.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who madest all things, who rulest and orderest all things, who restorest the fallen and raisest the dead, vouchsafe, we pray Thee, to show Thy kind and merciful countenance to Thy poor and needy Church. Look upon it with those eyes of pity with which Thou didst look upon Peter, in such sort that he remembered himself and repented; those eyes of compassion with which Thou didst behold the multitude, who were scattered as sheep having no shepherd. Thou seest with what winds, with what waves, Thy Church is tossed, so that it is in danger utterly to sink and perish. We confess that these troubles come upon us, from our own wickedness and sinful living. We confess Thy righteousness, and our unrighteousness. We complain not of Thy chastisements, O merciful Saviour, but we entreat of Thee not to look upon our deserv-

ings, but to think upon what belongeth to Thy mercy. For Thy name's sake, Lord Jesus, suffer not Thine enemies to triumph over us. Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is their God? Their reproaches do dishonour to Thy great name; by our shortcomings and disgraces men measure Thy power and Thy goodness. When the waves broke upon the ship wherein Thou wast sleeping, Thou saidst but a word, and immediately there was a great calm. Hear us, as Thou didst Thy disciples then, and rebuke the storm. Say Thou the word, and all the tempest shall be stilled. Thou alone bringest confusion into order; Thou only art the Author and Giver of peace. Behold, then, the present disorders and discords in Thy Church, and command deliverance. Send unto us, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit, to expel and drive far away the unseen authors of strife and confusion, and to create in us a clean heart. Let Thy Spirit move upon the troubled waters, and bring forth light, and order, and obedience to Thy will: so that we may know One Lord; one faith; one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is

above all, and through all, and in all. When Thou ascendedst up on high, Thou leddest captivity captive, and gavest gifts unto men. O renew again that bounty and that grace; give again to Thy fainting Church, what Thou gavest her at the beginning. Grant to our rulers a right fear of Thee; that they may discern Thy will, and follow it in all things. Grant to the ministers of Thy Word that they may be able to open and interpret it, not of their own skill, but of Thy teaching. To all Thy people grant a zeal to follow Thy commands, and a readiness to learn Thy will. For if, through Thy mercy, the rulers and pastors of Thy Church shall faithfully teach Thy Word, and the people obediently follow the same, then shall peace be within our walls, and tranquillity within our palaces.

O Lord, Thou sparedst the men of Nineveh, appointed to be destroyed, so soon as they turned to repentance. Wilt Thou, then, reject the prayer of Thine own Church and people, when they come before Thee in penitence and humiliation? But it is of Thine own gift, that Thy people can so turn to Thee. Thou art our Maker; repair Thy

work that Thou hast fashioned. Thou art our Redeemer; save that which Thou hast bought. Thou art the Head; grant saving help to Thy members. Thou art our King; O do Thou mightily rule over us. Thou art the Prince of Peace; shed down upon us brotherly love. And so let Thy Church, by Thee renewed, strengthened, and joined together, give thanks with one heart and one mouth unto Thee, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, blessed for evermore. Amen.

ERASMUS.

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we pray Thee suffer us not to stray from Thee, who art the Way, nor to distrust Thee, who art the Truth, nor to rest in any other thing than Thee, who art the Life. Teach us, by Thy Holy Spirit, what to believe, what to do, and wherein to take up our rest.

In ourselves we find nothing but darkness; so that we could neither see our own wretchedness, or how to escape from it. But Thou, vouchsafing to dwell upon this earth, and to take our nature upon Thee, didst direct our feet into the way of peace; didst show us the path of life; and didst make for us a plain and smooth way, by leaving us Thine own footsteps as a guide.

Thus hast Thou, who art the Truth, and with whom error cannot dwell, become our Way, leaving us no occasion for straying. And, as Thou art the Life, so having become our Life, Thou givest us grace to die

unto sin, and to live unto Thee, that when mortality shall be swallowed up of life, we may live with Thee, and live in Thee, for ever,—when Thou shalt be all in all.

For this, O Father, is life everlasting, to know Thee, the only True God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. And therefore, we pray Thee, increase our faith, that this knowledge may evermore dwell in us: increase our obedience, that we may not swerve from Thy commandments, and increase our firm hold of Thee, that we may forget the things which are behind, and reach forward to those which are before, and go on unto perfection. Multiply Thy grace upon us, that being daily more dead unto sin and alive unto Thee, we may be constantly led by Thy Holy Spirit: fearing Thee only, who art most worthy to be feared; glorying in Thee only, who art the glory of all Thy saints; desiring nothing but Thee, who art of all things the worthiest and the best; and, at last, living and dwelling with Thee, who, in the glory of the everlasting Trinity, art the full and perfect felicity, for ever and ever. Amen.

ERASMUS.

MONDAY EVENING.

O HOLY SPIRIT, who proceedest from the Father and the Son, and who with Them art the One Eternal God: O Holy Spirit, who by Thy holy inspiration purifiest the minds of men; comforting them in sorrow, leading them into all truth, kindling in them the fire of charity, uniting them together in the bond of peace; we beseech Thee to increase Thy mercy to us ever more and more; that all things belonging to the flesh may die in us, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow, for Jesus Christ's sake.

So lead us through the cloudy wilderness of this world, by Thy heavenly light, that neither the devices of Satan, nor the allurements of sinful men, may lead us astray; but that we may abide in the truth of Thy Holy Word, and in the end may attain unto everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O most merciful Father, since we know not what we should pray for as we ought, grant us the help of Thy Holy Spirit; that He may teach us to pray, and pray for us: making intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered.

We lift up our eyes unto Thee, O Thou that dwellest in the heavens. O Spirit of God, so teach and quicken us that we may pray unto Thee, not with the lips only, but with our whole heart and our whole soul. May we call upon Thee, not in hypocrisy, but worshipping Thee in spirit and in truth. So teach us, that we may ask of Thee such things as are agreeable to Thy holy will. Give us also such faith as shall prevail with Thee, being Thine own gift; but give us also an entire submission to Thy holy will. We would wait patiently upon Thee, O Lord, until Thou incline Thine ear, and listen to our prayer.

As the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress, so our eyes wait upon Thee, O Lord, until Thou have mercy upon us.

Heavenly Father, we present our supplications unto Thee, not for our own righteousness, but for Thy manifold and great mercies, and in the name of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. In His name, through faith, we come to the throne of Thy grace. Grant our petitions for His sake, who is at Thy right hand, ever making intercession for us. To Him, with Thyself, and the Holy Ghost, be equal and undivided praise. Amen.

ERASMUS.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O CHRIST JESUS our Saviour, Thou knowest how this vain world beguiles our feeble and wandering eyes; how it allures, entices, and flatters; how it threatens, affrights, and vexes. O Thou Light of Life, scatter these clouds, and so enlighten our eyes, that we may truly see, and earnestly seek after, those things which are truly good and truly blessed; and chiefly may desire and follow after Thee, the Fountain of all goodness and all blessedness.

All flesh is grass, and all the glory thereof is as the flower of the field. How swiftly do all things fade away, and leave nothing behind them but weariness and grief! Little have they profited those that have gone before us: little will they profit us, who now follow in their steps. Deliver us from vanity, O Lord God! and make us earnest in seeking Thy truth, and in clinging fast to it; so

that our whole hearts may be given to Thy righteousness; and our only joy be in knowing Thee, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.

But Thou knowest, and we with grief confess, that the flesh in us warreth against the spirit, so that we cannot do the things that we would.

Lord Jesus, all power is given to Thee in heaven and earth: transform our understandings and our wills; cleanse our hearts; send Thy Holy Spirit into our souls; subdue us unto Thyself, so that our flesh may be brought into subjection to the spirit, and our affections made obedient to Thy pure and holy law, to the praise and glory of Thy sovereign grace.

Save us, also, we beseech Thee, from that great enemy, who beguiled our first parents in Paradise; and who still goeth about, seeking whom he may devour. Thou knowest how unable we are to contend with him; and how easily, unless Thou succour us, he will deceive us, overthrow us, and take us into his power. But Thou, O Lord, hast overcome and vanquished him. Thou hast

taken away his dominion; Thou hast led captivity captive, and hast triumphed over him, for us, in our nature. We therefore beseech Thee, that we be not left in his hand. Appear for our deliverance, disappoint his devices, quench all his fiery darts, and finally give deliverance to Thy people. Set up Thy banner in our hearts, that, marching boldly under it, we may be delivered from the hands of our enemies, and of all that hate us, and may serve Thee, in holiness and righteousness, all the days of our life. Grant this, O Lord our Saviour, to the everlasting honour of Thy most blessed name. Amen.

LUDOV. VIVES.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, Thou knowest, and Thou hast instructed us, how great our weakness is; and how unable we are to do anything without Thee. Trusting to ourselves, we must needs fall into a thousand troubles. Blessed Saviour, pity the infirmity of Thy children; be merciful and gracious unto them; that by Thine enlightening we may see what things are good; by Thine encouraging may hope and long for them; and by Thy guidance may attain unto the same, to Thy praise and glory.

Thou hast created us men, with bodies mortal and earthly, but with souls heavenly and immortal. Thou hast given us understanding, reason, and judgment, whereby to perceive the vast and sovereign goodness which is in Thee, O God; that, knowing Thee, we may love Thee, and being drawn unto Thee, may be made one with Thee, immortal and blessed for ever.

But we, Thy sinful creatures, overcome by the weight of the flesh, do spend the powers of the mind on things earthly and sensual. Heavenly things are hidden and lost beneath things worldly; we rise not above the world, but sink under its temptations. Yet leave us not, nor forsake us, O Lord our God. Thou hast called us into the fellowship of Thy kingdom; Thou hast brought us within the enclosure of Thy Church. Thou offerest us light every moment: Thou settest before us Thy love, to the intent that we should love Thee. But our hearts are still hard and stony: we hear of these Thy blessings, but we heed them not: things that perish draw our hearts away from Thee. Thou leadest us into the narrow path, but we look back, or turn aside. O our God, waken us, quicken us; let us not be slumbering in the mire; strengthen us to disregard the fashions and opinions of men; give us courage to despise things which Thou knowest to be worthless: to trample upon things vile and loathsome; and to raise our thoughts to things which Thou dost value and esteem.

Give us grace, O our God, to listen to Thy

call, to obey Thy voice, and to follow Thy guiding. Thou leadest us to pleasures that never fade; to riches which no moth, nor rust, can corrupt or destroy. Unsearchable riches are in Thy hand; O give us grace to know their value and to covet them. Thou leadest us to fountains of living waters,—suffer us not to wander or turn aside, till we attain unto the pleasures which are at Thy right hand for evermore.

Establish, strengthen, settle us: that our goodness may not be like the early dew which quickly passeth away; but make us stedfast, immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord. Grant this, we beseech Thee, for Thy dear Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

LUDOV. VIVES.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who with Thy Co-eternal Son art the creator of all things, and dost by Him gather unto Thyself a universal Church through the preaching of His Gospel, we Thine unworthy servants confess and bewail the many sins, open and unknown, by which we have grievously offended against Thee. And we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son, whom Thou hast appointed to be our Mediator and Advocate, to forgive us all our sins and offences, negligences and ignorances, and to grant unto us free justification and eternal life, and to rule and govern us by Thy Holy Spirit.

Gather together, we pray Thee, in this land an eternal Church unto Thyself. Defend it evermore; instruct and lead it by Thy light; protect it against the assaults of the devil; and drive away from it all errors, heresies, and hypocrisies.

Give unto us, O merciful Father, those

things which be needful for the body in this present life. Make our land fruitful, and give us peaceful dwellings. Govern Thou our rulers by Thy Holy Spirit and Thy blessed Word, and restrain with Thy mighty hand all wickedness and falsehood. Mercifully preserve and guide this household, and make us all channels of grace and mercy, and not of wrath, that we may give thanks unto Thee for ever.

Almighty God, Holy Spirit, who proceedest from the Father and the Son, and by the Eternal Son, our Redeemer, wast promised unto us, to kindle in us the true knowledge and love of God, stir up in our hearts, we beseech Thee, true fear, true faith, and acknowledgment of the mercy which the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised unto us for His sake. Be Thou our Comforter in all difficulties and dangers, and so kindle Divine love in our hearts, that by true obedience we may offer perpetual praise to Thyself, and to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to His blessed Son, our Redeemer. Amen.

MELANCTHON.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-LIVING GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who of Thine infinite goodness hast revealed Thyself unto us Thy creatures, and hast declared Thy good-will towards us, and Thine unspeakable design for the redemption of mankind by the gift of Thine only-begotten Son; have mercy upon us, and upon Thy whole Church; forgive us all the sins that we have committed against Thee, whether by negligence or ignorance, by omission or commission, through overmuch occupation, or by reason of the weakness of human nature. Pardon us, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son, whom Thou hast appointed to be a sacrifice for us, a Mediator and Advocate, that by Him Thou mightest declare Thy great anger against the sins of men, and Thine infinite mercy and compassion.

O Lord, we beseech Thee to bless, govern, and sanctify all schools of sound learning.

Raise up faithful ministers of Thy Church, and prosper all such good works as through Thy guidance they shall begin and carry on. Remove, we pray Thee, all offences from Thy Church, restrain the impiety of wicked men, and preserve us from heresy and schism. Stir up and strengthen our hearts and minds in the true worship of Thee by Thy Holy Spirit; and let all the members of Thy Church be so enlightened by Thy Word and Gospel, that they may run neither after sensual enticements, nor fanatical errors. Give unto us the spirit of wisdom and of a sound mind; not fearing to make a good confession; neither doubting, nor despising; that we be not like men sporting with divers opinions, and carried about with every wind of doctrine. And so rule and govern the minds of all princes that they may be nursing-fathers to Thy Church, according to Thy will, and may reign in peace and tranquillity to the profit of all men.

Comfort, O merciful Father, by Thy Word and Holy Spirit, all who are afflicted or distressed, and so turn their hearts unto Thee that they may serve Thee in truth, and bring

forth fruit meet for repentance. Be Thou, O Lord, their succour and defence.

O Thou that art the author of all good things in Thy holy Church, work mightily in Thy servants, that they may be profitable to all men, and vessels of Thy mercy and grace. Control in us all evil desires, and so govern our thoughts and deeds that we may serve Thee in righteousness and true holiness; and sanctify us all unto that eternal life which we, with all Thy creatures, groaning and travailing together, wait for and expect, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MELANCTHON.

THURSDAY MORNING.

HEAVENLY FATHER, we beseech Thee, pour upon us Thine Holy Spirit, and make us in our hearts clearly to see, and stedfastly to believe, Thy gracious goodness, set forth unto us by Thine own Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ; and make us to put all our confidence and hope of salvation in Him, whom Thou hast appointed to be our only Saviour and Redeemer. Teach us always to render unto Thee most humble and hearty thanks for Thy wondrous mercy and goodness towards us. Make us to profess the death of Thy dearly-beloved Son, in renouncing and forsaking all sin; and to rise with Him to newness of life, in righteousness and true holiness; so that after this life we may reign with Him in everlasting glory.

And as Thy dearly-beloved Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, according to His blessed will, suffered willingly for us, so,

in like manner, if it shall be Thy pleasure to lay any cross upon us, may we willingly and patiently bear it, to Thine everlasting glory.

Grant, we beseech Thee, merciful Father, that we may never presume on our own might and power; but, acknowledging our own infirmity, frailty, and weakness, may receive at Thy mighty hand strength to perform Thy holy and blessed will.

O Lord Jesus, who, in the heaviness of Thy soul, didst fall down in prayer unto Thy heavenly Father, grant us Thy grace, and the aid of Thy Holy Spirit, that we likewise, in all heaviness of mind, and in every time of trouble, may fly, by instant and earnest prayer, to the aid and comfort of our heavenly Father. Hear us, O Lord Jesus, for Thy name's sake.

O Thou, who in almighty power wast meek, and in perfect excellency was lowly, grant unto us the same mind, that we may acknowledge our weakness, and may mourn over our evil will. Our bodies are frail and fading; our minds are blind and froward; all that we have which is our own,

is naught; if we have any good thing in us, it is wholly Thy gift. O Saviour, since Thou, the Lord of heaven and earth, didst humble Thyself, grant unto us true humility, and make us like Thyself. And then, of Thine infinite goodness, raise us to Thine everlasting glory, who livest and reignest with the Father, and the Holy Ghost, for ever and ever. Amen.

CRANMER.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God, without whose will and pleasure not a sparrow can fall to the ground, grant to us, in times of trouble to be patient, without murmuring or despair; and in prosperity to acknowledge Thy gifts; and to confess that all our endowments come from Thee, O Father of lights, who givest liberally and upbraidest not. Give us, by Thy Holy Spirit, a willing heart and a ready hand, to use all Thy gifts to Thy praise and glory.

Lord Jesus, Thou hast warned us, by the mouth of Thine apostle, that our adversary the devil goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Without Thy help he will quickly deceive us by his craft, or overthrow us with his might, and by his malice work our destruction. But if Thou, who art his conqueror, wilt deign to appear in our behalf, Thou wilt speedily put him to

flight. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to take us into Thy care and keeping; lest our cruel enemy gain the advantage over us. We fight under Thy banner, that our enemy may know that our confidence is in Thy aid, in Thy strength and wisdom.

Where Thou art, O Lord, is the land of liberty, and of everlasting blessedness. Stir up our minds, we beseech Thee, to remember the felicity of Thy chosen; pour into our hearts a fervent desire for that blessedness. Give quietness to our minds, and grant that we may have some taste of the everlasting joys of Thy heavenly kingdom; whereby those worldly things which we so earnestly seek and so eagerly embrace, shall seem loathsome and defiled. So shall we refuse them as bitter and worthless things, and fervently desire the blessedness of Thy heavenly kingdom, where there are pleasures for evermore. And unto Thee, Lord Jesus, be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

CRANMER.

FRIDAY MORNING.

HEAVENLY FATHER, who watchest over Thy faithful people, and mightily defendest them, we thank Thee that it hath pleased Thy fatherly goodness to take care of us Thy servants during the night past, and to give us needful sleep, to the refreshment of our bodies. We beseech Thee to show the same goodness to us this day; so preserving and ruling over us that we may neither think nor speak nor do anything displeasing to Thee, or hurtful to our neighbours; but that all our doings may be agreeable to Thy most blessed will, and may advance Thy glory; so that, when Thou shalt call us hence, we may be found the children, not of darkness, but of light.

But, inasmuch as we are not able to think a good thought without Thy help and guidance, we beseech Thee for Jesus Christ's sake to endue us with Thy Holy Spirit; to

make us new creatures, and to give us grace to walk in Thy fear, and in the obedience of Thy holy will; so that whatsoever we do, in word or deed, we may do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks unto God the Father through Him.

Grant that all rulers and governors may faithfully maintain the right, punish the evil-doers, advance Thy holy Word, and in all their doings seek Thy glory and the good and profit of the State.

May the ministers of Thy Word take heed to themselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made them overseers; to feed the Church which Thy dear Son hath purchased with His blood. May they take the oversight, not from desire of lucre, but of a ready mind; nor as lords over God's heritage, but being an example unto the flock. May they give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine, showing themselves workmen who need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

And may the people reverence them, as the messengers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God, Finally, may all who

confess Thy holy name agree in the truth of Thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. And grant, O most merciful and gracious Father, that our light may so shine before men, that they, seeing our good works, may glorify Thee, our Father, which art in heaven. Hear us, we beseech Thee, for Thy dear Son's sake, to whom, with Thyself and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BECON.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, by whose divine ordinance the darkness covers the earth, and brings unto us bodily rest and quietness, we render Thee our hearty thanks for the loving-kindness which Thou hast shown in preserving us during the past day, and in giving us all things necessary for our health and comfort. And we beseech Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake, to forgive us all the sins we have committed, in thought, word, or deed; and that Thou wilt shadow us this night under the wings of Thy almighty power, and defend us from Satan and all his servants. May our souls, whether sleeping or waking, wait upon Thee, delight in Thee, and evermore praise Thee: so that, when the light of day returns, we may rise with pure and thankful hearts, casting away the works of darkness, and putting on the armour of light.

We thank and praise Thee, heavenly Father, that Thou hast set forth in Thy holy Word, the Gospel, the glad tidings of our salvation; which comforteth those who are cast down, revealing to us a righteousness better than our own; even the righteousness of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, for whose sake Thou canst be well pleased with man; and for whose righteousness Thou freely forgivest all who with hearty repentance flee unto Thy mercy.

We therefore, O most merciful Father, taking comfort from the gracious promises set forth in the Gospel of Thy dear Son, come with boldness to the throne of Thy mercy; humbly beseeching Thee, not to weigh our merits, or to deal with us according to our deservings, but to accept us for the sake of Thy beloved Son. Renew Thy fatherly love towards us; make us vessels of mercy; number us with Thy chosen; and endue us with Thy Holy Spirit; to create in us a new and spiritual life; and to make us conformable to Thine own most blessed image.

Merciful and gracious Father, remember

our sins, but remember Thine own most
:ious promises. Look not upon our evil
ds, but look upon the holy life of Thy
r Son. Thou hast given Him to be our
leemer, and Saviour, the full and perfect
ifice for all our sins. For His sake, then,
His innocency and righteousness, have
cy upon us, according to Thy great mercy,
put away all our unrighteousness for Thy
ler compassion. So will we give continual
ses to Thy most blessed name, through
ıs Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee,
the Holy Ghost, be all glory and honour,
ld without end. Amen.

BECON.

SATURDAY MORNING.

WE render unto Thee, O heavenly Father, our hearty thanks, by Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, that Thou hast vouchsafed to preserve us from evil, and to give us rest and sleep. And we beseech Thee that, as Thou hast raised our bodies from sleep, so Thou wouldest deliver our souls from the sleep of sin, and the darkness of this world; that we, walking in the light of Thy blessed Word, may do that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O almighty and everlasting God, who knowest that it is a good and pleasant thing for brethren to dwell together in unity, grant unto us of this realm, this pleasure and comfort, that we may live in quietness and concord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, all they that believe in Thee are brethren; yea, even fellow-heirs with Thee of eternal glory. Grant, therefore,

that we may be of one heart and of one mind; and give us Thy heavenly grace, which may cause us, through Thy Holy Spirit, to abound in good works; so that, as brethren dwelling together in unity and concord, we may enjoy Thy promise, even Thy blessing in this world, and in the world to come everlasting life.

O Holy Spirit, where Thou art there is liberty. Have mercy upon us: release us from the bondage of the flesh, and give us that liberty of the spirit which is wrought by Thee in the hearts of the faithful; so that, being delivered from the power of our enemies, we may serve Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life.

O blessed Spirit, forgive us our sins; purify our minds by Thy holy inspiration; comfort our hearts by Thy holy presence; lead us into all truth; give us the knowledge of all heavenly and spiritual things; cover us with the shield of faith, that we may be able to quench all the fiery darts of the devil; kindle in our hearts the fire of Christian love; endue us with patience in tribulation, and keep from us all vain-glory

in times of prosperity. Give us boldness to confess Thy name, and grace to persevere even to the end. Replenish us with Thy heavenly gifts; so that the world, the flesh, and the devil may be put under our feet; and that we, under Thy holy inspiration, may do always that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight, unto the glory of Thy blessed name, who livest and reignest with the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, one God, world without end. Amen.

BECON.

SATURDAY EVENING.

WE most humbly thank Thee, O merciful Father, for preserving us this day, and for all other benefits wherewith Thou hast blessed us. And we beseech Thee, forgive us all the sins whereby we have offended Thy fatherly goodness; and take us this night into Thy keeping, that our enemies may have no power over us, nor any evil approach to hurt us.

O Lord God, we render Thee our humble and hearty thanks for all the manifold and inestimable benefits which Thou hast given unto us, both for our bodies and our souls. We bless Thee for our creation in Thine own image and likeness, and for the loving-kindness Thou didst show unto us when we were lost and ruined through the sin of our first father. Thou mightest justly have cast us into perpetual condemnation; yet didst Thou, in Thy great love, have pity upon us, and savedst us by the death and passion of Thy

well-beloved Son, who gave Himself a ransom for our sins, and made atonement by His precious blood for the transgressions of all them that repent and believe in Him: who rose again for our justification, and ascended up into heaven, where He now sitteth at Thy right hand, making intercession for us: from whence also we look for His return, to receive us unto everlasting glory; there to remain, world without end.

For these Thy bounteous gifts, and for all the benefits which Thou daily bestowest upon us, we most humbly thank Thee, O merciful Father, beseeching Thee that Thou wilt give us grace through Thy Holy Spirit, to walk worthy of this Thy kindness; and so to live in this world according to Thy holy will, that at the last Thou mayest receive us to Thy glory, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake.

Thy Word, O Lord, is a lamp unto our feet, and a light to our path. Thy statutes are right, and rejoice the heart; Thy commandment is pure, giving light to the eyes. Send down Thy Holy Spirit upon all pastors and teachers, that they may declare the glorious Gospel of Thy dear Son; and to all Thy

people give Thy heavenly grace, that they may diligently keep in memory whatsoever shall be godly and truly spoken. And forasmuch as neither he that planteth nor he that watereth is anything, but Thou, O God, who givest the increase, we earnestly pray that the seed of Thy blessed Word, which shall be sown among us, may fall into our hearts as into good ground; and be neither choked with thorns, nor dried up for want of moisture, nor carried away by the birds of the air; but, through the working of the Holy Ghost, may so take root in our hearts, that it may bring forth good fruit, to Thy praise and glory, and to the health of our souls, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BECON.

THIRD WEEK.

PRIMERS OF HENRY VIII. AND EDWARD VI., CALVIN, BRADFORD, ETC.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, who by the mouth of our Saviour Jesus Christ hast said, Ask and it shall be given you; receive, we beseech Thee, our supplication, and for Thy truth's sake hear us in Thy righteousness. For we make our prayers unto Thee, most blessed Father, not trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold mercies. Have mercy upon us Thy sinful children; soften our hard hearts with the dew of Thy grace. Fulfil Thy promise made unto us by Thy prophet. Take away from us this stony heart, and give us a heart

of flesh; put a new spirit within us, and make us to walk after Thy commandments.

Lighten, O Father of light, our blind hearts, blinded with error and ignorance, wrong judgment and evil affections. Lighten them with the true light of Thy holy Word, that we may know Thy will, love it, and live thereafter. Convert our impenitent hearts, which cannot repent of themselves. Convert them through Thine almighty power, which Thou showedst in Christ Jesus Thy Son, in raising Him, as on this day, from the dead. Give us grace, blessed Father, to feel in our hearts Thine infinite goodness and mercy, and Thine exceeding kindness set forth unto us in and by our Saviour Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast given up to death, to redeem us from everlasting death, and to make us Thy children and heirs, brethren and inheritors together with Thine only Son our Lord.

Grant, O blessed Father, that we, being mindful of this Thine exceeding kindness, may condemn our ungratefulness; our sin and wretchedness, and hate and abhor it in our

hearts as we ought to do. Grant that we may cease from it, leave and resist it, and withstand in time of temptation. Grant that with unfeigned faith, and with sure belief in Thy promises, we may ask and obtain of Thee forgiveness, with grace to amend our lives. Grant that we may be thankful for the great benefits which we have received, and daily receive, of Thee, and may praise and love Thee evermore. Grant that loving Thee we may also love Thy holy commandments; and give us grace to see the beauty of holiness contained in them; and stir up in us an earnest desire to keep and observe them.

Grant unto us Thy continual aid, that we be not weary of well-doing; but forgetting those things that are behind, and ever looking forward, we may go on and increase in every good work unto our lives' end. And when it shall be Thy pleasure to take us out of this evil world, vouchsafe to give us possession of that kingdom which Thou hast prepared for us; there to be safe from temptation; and never more to offend Thy goodness; but to rejoice in Thee, and evermore

praise Thy mercy, in and by our Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thyself and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

PRIMER OF HENRY VIII.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O MOST merciful God and tender Father, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to look down with pity upon us miserable sinners, who lie prostrate in heart before the feet of Thy boundless mercy; for we have sinned against the throne of Thy glory and before Thee, O Father, and are no more worthy to be called Thy sons. We have not kept the least of Thy most holy and blessed commandments as Thy righteousness may justly require and demand of us. We have not honoured Thee our God, nor dreaded Thee our Lord, nor loved Thee our Father, nor trusted in Thee our Creator and Saviour. Thy holy and dreadful name, unto which all honour and glory belongeth, we have taken in vain. We have not sanctified Thy holy day with works acceptable unto Thee. We have not honoured them that are set over us, and receive their authority of Thee, neither

have we been willingly obedient unto them. We have not kept our hearts free from hatred; and had not Thy grace and mercy prevented us, we should have committed violent deeds. We are not pure from dishonest and fleshly lusts, nor from false witness bearing; and we have in our hearts and minds desired our neighbours' goods.

We have followed the course of this world in pride of living, in deceitfulness, hatred, uncleanness, in envy and backbiting, in distrust and misbelief. We have misused the senses of our bodies, which Thou hast given us to use to Thy honour and glory, and to the edification and profit of our neighbours.

But in what manner soever we have offended and sinned against Thy eternal Majesty, whether by day or by night, yea even from our childhood unto this day, we are heartily sorry, O merciful God, and we beseech Thee of Thine infinite mercy to grant unto us Thine abundant grace, that we may die unto the world; and, putting off the old man, may go forward in newness of life. Strengthen us in humility of heart, in perfect love, hope, and trust in Thee. Give us grace

to desire Thee only, in Thee only to rejoice; so that, utterly forsaking the vain confidence of this world, we may be found ready at our last hour, like good servants, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be Thou unto us at that time of need a tower of strength, a place of refuge, and a defence against the enemy. Let Thy comfort support and strengthen us, Thy mercy keep us, and Thy grace guide us. And then receive unto Thyself, O Lord God the Father, that which Thy power hath shapen; receive, O Lord the Son, that which Thou hast bought with Thy precious blood; receive, O Lord the Holy Ghost, that which Thou hast kept and preserved so lovingly in this evil world; and to Thee who art over all, three Persons and one God, be praise and honour for ever and ever. Amen.

PRIMER OF HENRY VIII.

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, the Maker of heaven and earth, who hast appointed us a way to walk in, according to Thy good will and pleasure, send down Thy grace upon us, that we, neither following our own will, nor the devices of men, may believe and confess that to be the true godliness which is learned in Thy holy Word, and may order our lives thereby, unto the praise of Thy holy name.

And forasmuch as Thou alone art the Author of the Holy Scriptures, neither can any man understand them except he be taught by Thy Holy Spirit, who alone guideth Thy people into all truth, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to breathe into our hearts Thy blessed Spirit; that He may open our understandings, reveal to us the mysteries of Thy Word, and give unto us such a certain and assured knowledge of Thy truth, that

no persuasion or skill of man may draw us away from Thee. And grant that, having learned Thy blessed will, we may remain in the same unto our lives' end, to the glory of Thy name; and we beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, that we, being taught by Thy Holy Spirit the true understanding of Thy blessed Word, may lead our lives according to this knowledge. Let us not be of the number of those who profess that they know Thee, but deny Thee in their deeds. Make us rather to be like unto good ground, which bringeth forth fruit abundantly.

O merciful Saviour, who knowest that we have here no rest, but are continually vexed in our souls by the lusts of the flesh, and the assaults of the world and the devil, let us not be overcome of our enemies, but preserve us evermore by Thy goodness, through the ministry of Thy holy angels. And forasmuch as it is Thy good pleasure that our souls and bodies shall remain here together during the time of this mortal life, preserve our souls from all sin, and our bodies from all sickness, that we, through Thy benefit enjoying the health both of body and soul,

may be able to serve Thee, and do good unto all men, according to Thy holy will.

Give us grace, also, so to frame our lives according to the rule of Thy blessed Word, that we may give no occasion to any to speak evil of us, but that we may walk in all godliness and virtue, to the honour and praise of Thy holy name.

O heavenly Father, who hast commanded us by Thy dear Son to pray unto Thee for things necessary for this life, we come unto Thy divine Majesty, not doubting Thy fatherly provision, but humbly beseeching Thee that as Thou hast given us life, Thou wilt give us also food and clothing and all other needful things, that we having sufficient for our living, may give ourselves with quiet minds to Thy service and honour, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRIMER OF EDWARD VI.

MONDAY EVENING.

O MOST gracious Lord and merciful Father, we Thine unworthy servants most humbly beseech Thee for mercy and forgiveness of all the sins that we have this day committed against Thee. And we heartily thank Thee that Thou hast preserved us, and with Thy grace hast saved, supported, and sustained us. That we have fallen in many ways is our fault, for which we humbly ask forgiveness of Thee. That Thou hast preserved us is of Thy great goodness, mercy, and grace, for which with all our hearts we thank Thee. And now, we beseech Thee, most merciful Father, that Thou wilt be no more angry with us, neither forsake us henceforth, but wilt continually assist, fortify, and strengthen us against the assaults of the devil, and be our succour and defence, both this night and for ever, against all sin and iniquity.

Vouchsafe also of Thine abundant bounty, if it be Thy will, to refresh our bodies with convenient rest, that we may the more readily, zealously, and promptly, with all diligence serve Thee on the morrow, according to that state unto which Thou hast called us; so that our lives may please Thee, and through Thy assistance be so ordered and governed, that after this life ended, we may attain unto the life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thy benefits towards us, O most loving Father, are so great and infinite, that we find not in ourselves how to recompense any part of Thine unspeakable goodness. But Thou, knowing our poverty, requirest of us nothing save the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. O Lord and merciful Father, what thanks can we, miserable sinners, give unto Thee? Yet trusting in Thy mercy and favourable kindness, we offer unto Thee, in the name of Thy Son Jesus Christ, the sacrifice of praise, ever thanking Thee most heartily for all the benefits which Thou hast bestowed upon us, Thy most unprofitable servants, from the beginning of our

lives unto this present hour; most humbly beseeching Thee to continue Thy loving-kindness towards us, and to accept these our thanksgivings for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and praise for ever and ever. Amen.

PRIMER OF EDWARD VI.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD, our heavenly Father, we render unto Thee praise and thanks that Thou hast preserved us through the past night, and through all the time of our lives hitherto, and hast brought us unto this present hour. And we beseech Thee that Thou wilt vouchsafe to receive us this day and henceforth into Thy holy keeping; so ruling and governing us with Thy Holy Spirit, that all darkness of unbelief and all carnal lusts and affections may be driven away out of our hearts; and that we may be justified and saved, both body and soul, through a right and perfect faith, and may walk in the light of Thy truth, to Thy glory and praise, and to the help and profit of our neighbours, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who art the true Sun of the world, evermore rising, and never going down; who by Thy life-giving beams dost bring forth, preserve, and nourish all

things in heaven and earth, we beseech Thee mercifully to shine into our hearts, that the darkness of sin and the mists of error on every side may be driven away; and that we may go forward in Thy light without stumbling or offence; having no fellowship with the works of darkness, but abounding in all those good works which Thou hast prepared for us to walk in. Thou knowest how great is our weakness, how constant is our infirmity; so that we can do no good thing without Thy help. O Father, have compassion upon us, Thy children; be Thou ever ready to help us; show Thy mercy upon us; and prosper us in all good works. Grant that by Thy light we may see those things that be good: by Thine encouragement may desire the same, and by Thy guidance may attain unto them; for we, O Lord, having no trust in ourselves, do yield our souls and bodies to Thee alone, who workest all things according to Thy good pleasure. Hear us, O merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

PRIMER OF EDWARD VI.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who requirest of Thy disciples charity, out of a pure heart, and faith unfeigned, give unto us, we pray Thee, this Christian love and perfect charity, that we may love Thee, our Lord and God, with all our heart, and soul, and strength, doing always of very love that only which is pleasant in Thy sight. Grant also that we may love our brethren and neighbours as ourselves, and may be ready at all times to do for them whatsoever lieth in our power; so that when we shall all stand before Thy judgment-seat we may be numbered among Thy disciples, and through Thy mercy obtain the reward of eternal glory.

And forasmuch, O Lord, as we being members of one body have not all the same office, nor the same gift, give us grace to receive even as it hath pleased Thee to dis-

tribute. Send among us, we most humbly pray Thee, Thy Spirit of love and concord; that without disorder or debate, every one of us may be content with his calling, may live quietly in the same, and study to do good unto all men by the true and diligent exercise thereof, not too much seeking our private gain; but so ordering our lives in all things according to Thy godly will, that we may glorify Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And because nothing pleaseth Thee that is done without faith, we beseech Thee, O Father, for Thy dear Son's sake, to breathe into our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit this most precious gift of faith, which worketh by love; whereby also we are justified, and received into Thy favour; that we truly believing in Thee, and fully persuaded of the truth of Thy holy Word, may be made Thy sons and inheritors of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

PRIMER OF EDWARD VI.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast promised to hear the prayers which are offered up in the name of Thy beloved Son, we beseech Thee, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, that of Thy boundless mercy Thou wouldst pardon our sins, and wouldst so draw our thoughts unto Thyself, that we may call upon Thee from our inmost heart, and desire such things as are according to Thy will.

We present our prayers before Thee, O heavenly Father, in behalf of all rulers and magistrates, that Thou wouldst be pleased to pour down upon them Thy Holy Spirit; so that knowing Thy Son, Jesus Christ, to be King of kings and Lord of lords, they may in their office have an eye to His worship and the extension of His kingdom; and that we, enjoying stable peace both here and throughout the world, may serve Thee in all holiness and purity, and celebrate Thy praise all the days of our life.

We commend also unto Thee, O faithful Father and Saviour, all whom Thou hast appointed to be pastors of Thy Church. Guide them by Thy Holy Spirit, and make them honest and faithful ministers of Thy Word; directing all their endeavours to gather together the sheep that wander astray; and daily increasing in righteousness and true holiness.

Furthermore, we offer up our prayers unto Thee, O most merciful Father, for all mankind; that as Thou art pleased to be acknowledged the Saviour of all men by the redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ, Thy Son, so those who are still strangers to the knowledge of Him, being shut up in darkness, and held captive in ignorance and error, may, by Thy Holy Spirit shining upon them, and by Thy Gospel preached unto them, be brought into the way of salvation; and may know Thee, the true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. And we beseech Thee, that all those on whom Thou hast deigned to bestow the favour of Thy grace, and whose minds Thou hast enlightened by the knowledge of Thy Word, may daily

profit more and more, being enriched with Thy spiritual blessings; so that we may together, with one heart and one mouth, worship Thee, and pay due honour and service to Thy Christ, our Lord, and King, and Lawgiver.

Finally, we commend unto Thee, O God of all comfort, all those whom Thou hast chastened by poverty, sickness, or any other suffering in body or mind. Grant unto them such a sense of Thy fatherly love, that they may turn unto Thee with their whole heart, and receive of Thee full consolation, and a happy deliverance out of all their troubles.

Be Thou, O Lord, our guide and protector throughout this day. Strengthen and fortify us against all the assaults of the devil, and deliver us from all the dangers of this life. Show us the way wherein we should walk, for we lift up our souls unto Thee. Teach us to do Thy will, for Thou art our God: let Thy good Spirit lead us forth into the land of uprightness.

Grant these petitions, O merciful Father, for Thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CALVIN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast opened unto us the way of salvation, to which we ourselves could not attain, grant, we beseech Thee, that by reconciliation to Thee through Thy Son, we may obtain that perfect righteousness which in ourselves we find not. Cause us so to embrace the mercy which is offered to us in Thy Gospel, that we may go from strength to strength, till we finally reach that heavenly possession which Thy Son, our Saviour, hath purchased for us.

Let us in such wise embrace Thy mercy, set forth in the sacrifice which He has offered up, that we may be regenerated by Thy Holy Spirit, and may give up ourselves unto Thee; so glorifying Thy name in this world, that in the world to come we may be made partakers of Thine everlasting glory.

And since we are in ourselves so frail, and compassed about with infirmity, that even

when Thou holdest out Thine hand, we sink in sin without Thy continual help, support us, we pray Thee, by Thine almighty power; that we may go forward in the path of Thy commandments, and obtain the victory over all temptations.

O Almighty God, who in Thy mercy hast not only delivered unto us a rule of godly living, but hast revealed Thyself in the Lord Jesus Christ, as our Father, with intent to write Thy law in our hearts; suffer us not, by our ingratitude or sloth, to cast away this inestimable blessing; but may we offer ourselves unto Thee, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, true, and lively sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Take from us all hardness of heart; save us from all hypocrisy and feigned service. May we give up ourselves wholly unto Thee, and seek to profit more and more by the knowledge of Thy heavenly doctrine, till at the end we attain unto the fulness of Thy light. Thou hast ordained that we should pass through this life as travellers, till Thou gatherest us to Thy heavenly rest. Give us grace to bear in mind that heavenly inherit-

ance which Thou hast set before us. So guide us in our journey that we stray not, neither depart from the way; but keep us ever looking forward to the prize of our high calling, until we shall have finished our course with joy. May we behold by faith things invisible; and may our dependence be on Thee alone; may we so trust to Thy gracious providence as not to doubt our safety, since life and salvation are Thy care. So, when troubles or storms assault us, we shall still remain in peace, till we finally enjoy that blessed and eternal rest which Thou hast prepared for us in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALVIN.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O GOD, our Father and Saviour, since it hath pleased Thee of Thy mercy to preserve us in the night now past, and to bring us unto the beginning of this day; grant unto us that we may bestow the same in Thy service, and may neither think, speak, nor do anything but to the intent to please Thee, and to satisfy Thy will; so that all our works may tend to the setting forth of Thy glory, and to the profit of our neighbours, through Christ our Lord.

And as it hath pleased Thee to cause Thy sun to shine upon the earth, to give us bodily light; even so let it be Thy good pleasure to illuminate both our hearts and understandings with the bright beams of Thy Spirit, that thereby we may be guided into the straight way of Thy righteousness, and may walk in Thy fear, looking for all benefit, wealth, or prosperity at Thy hands, and fearing to take anything in hand which shall not be agreeable

to Thy will. And grant unto us so to labour in this present life for things expedient and necessary, that we may always direct our eyes farther, even to the heavenly life which Thou hast promised unto Thy children.

Vouchsafe, O merciful Lord, of Thy bountiful goodness to govern both our bodies and souls; to strengthen us against all temptations of the devil, and to deliver us from all danger which may happen to us. Receive us evermore into Thy protection, maintaining and increasing from day to day Thy grace and goodness towards us, until Thou hast brought us unto the full and perfect unity of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the true light of our souls.

And to the end that we may obtain these requests at Thy hands, may it please Thee also to forget all our sins past, and of Thy infinite mercy freely to pardon them, according as Thou hast promised to all them that call upon Thee with a true heart. Grant us these our petitions, O Father of mercy, for our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

LITURGY OF GENEVA.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O LORD GOD, Father everlasting and full of pity, we acknowledge and confess that we are not worthy to lift up our eyes unto Thee. Our consciences do accuse us, and our sins witness against us, and Thou art an upright Judge, who punishest the faults of all such as transgress Thy commandments. Yet, most merciful Father, since it hath pleased Thee to command us to call on Thee in all our troubles and adversities, we, renouncing all worldly confidence, and fleeing to Thy sovereign bounty, do beseech Thee not to call to remembrance our manifold sins and wickedness, whereby we continually provoke Thy wrath and indignation against us; neither our negligence and ignorance, who have neither worthily esteemed, nor in our lives sufficiently expressed, the comfort of Thy Gospel; but rather to accept the obedience and death of Thy Son Jesus Christ, who, by

offering up Himself in sacrifice once for all, hath made a sufficient recompense for all our sins. Have mercy, therefore, upon us, and forgive us our offences. Teach us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may rightly weigh them, and earnestly repent of them; so that our repentant hearts and sorrowful minds, hungering and thirsting for Thy grace, may ever set forth Thy praise and glory.

Thou art our Creator, and we the work of Thine hands; Thou art our Father, and we Thy children; Thou art our Shepherd, and we Thy flock; Thou art our Redeemer, and we Thy people whom Thou hast bought; Thou art our God, and we Thine inheritance. Correct us not, therefore, in Thine anger, O Lord, neither punish us according to our deserts, but chasten us mercifully with a fatherly affection.

And forasmuch as it hath pleased Thee to make the night for rest, as Thou hast ordained the day for labour, grant, O heavenly Father, that we may so take our bodily rest, that our souls may continually watch for the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ; and that we, not being overcome by any delusions, dreams, or

other temptations, may fully set our minds upon Thee, love Thee, fear Thee, and rest in Thee. Give unto us such sleep as shall be sufficient for our need, that we, being strengthened and refreshed, may live in all godly conversation, to the glory of Thy holy name, and the profit of our brethren, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS APPROVED IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, 1584.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY and eternal God, of whom all fatherhood in heaven and earth is named, whose seat is in heaven, whose footstool is the earth; who of Thine unspeakable love hast not dealt with us according to our disobedience, but dost vouchsafe that we, as Thy children, should call Thee our heavenly Father,—grant that among us, Thy children, Thy most holy name may be sanctified, by pureness of mind, by singleness of heart, by godliness of life; that all men, beholding what Thou workest in us, may be moved to hallow and magnify Thy blessed and glorious name.

And, O Holy Father, we beseech Thee that the kingdom of Thy Holy Spirit, of grace and prayer, of Thy loving-kindness and mercy, and Thy blessed Word, may continually reign in our hearts; that so we may

be made worthy to be partakers of the kingdom of Thy glorious presence.

Heavenly Father, we pray Thee to bow all our hearts unto Thee, that like as Thy dear Son our Saviour counted it meat and drink to do Thy will, so we may, in lowliness, in meekness, in patience, and in thankfulness, seek to make these our earthly bodies serviceable to Thee; and overcoming the desires of the flesh, the assaults of the world, and the craft of the devil, may walk in Thy will all the days of our life.

O Lord our God, give, we pray Thee, unto our bodies such sustenance as may be needful; and take from us all love of worldly things, all carefulness and covetousness, that we may freely worship and serve Thee. But, above all, we beseech Thee to give unto us that heavenly bread, Thy Son Jesus Christ, the very food and health of our souls; that we may always with thankfulness feed on Him by faith, and satisfy the hunger of our souls with Thy rich mercy, promised to us in Him.

And forgive us our trespasses, we beseech Thee, O Lord. We confess that we have

grievously sinned against Thee; yet art Thou rich in mercy to all who call upon Thee. Wherefore, heavenly Father, by this Thy loving-kindness do Thou teach and compel us to bear patiently the wrongs of others; to do them good; to bless them; to feed and clothe them; and mercifully to forgive them, even as Thou, O Father, for Thy beloved Son's sake, hast forgiven us.

O Lord, Thou knowest our nature to be perverse and apt to sin; take from us all those evils and occasions which may draw us away from Thee. Protect, defend, and strengthen us against the assaults of our enemies; that being neither high-minded in prosperity, nor fearful in tribulation, we may endure the trial of our faith, and having finished our course in victory, may evermore dwell with Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom.

Meanwhile, we pray Thee to deliver us from this present evil world; from all earthly fears; from all infirmity of the flesh and spirit, and from all other evils, present and to come; that we, being defended from all hurtful things, may use those things which be profitable for us, and finally come unto

that inheritance which Thy dear Son hath purchased for us with His blood.

For Thine is the kingdom; Thou only hast the majesty, and the power, and the glory. There is neither majesty, rule nor power, nor honour or worship, health or sickness, prosperity or adversity, life or death, but as Thou dost ordain; for Thou hast the power, and wilt give it to whomsoever it pleaseth Thee; that all glory may be given to Thee, for Thou art worthy.

And therefore, O Father, we come to Thee for succour, for without Thee there is neither help nor safety. O deliver us from whatever is evil, and grant that we, being armed with Thy holy armour, and fortified by Thy blessed Word, and guided by Thy Holy Spirit, may, according to Thy promise, serve Thee without fear, in such holiness and righteousness as is acceptable in Thy sight.

And to Thee, our Father, and to Thy beloved Son our Saviour, and Thy Holy Spirit our Instructor and Comforter, be all dominion and power and glory, world without end. Amen.

BRADFORD.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, King of all kings, and Governor of all things, whose power no creature is able to resist, to whom it belongeth justly to punish sinners, and to be merciful to them that truly repent, grant us grace thankfully to acknowledge Thy great mercy, in that Thou hast dealt favourably with us, not punishing us according to our deservings, but calling us to repentance by Thy merciful correction. O gracious Father, who hast declared that Thou desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn and live; have mercy upon us, and turn Thou us, for Thy dear Son's sake, whom Thou hast set forth for the propitiation for all our sins.

And because the blindness and dulness of our hearts is such that we cannot rise up to Thee by faithful and earnest prayer, without Thy gracious assistance, grant us, good

Lord, Thy Holy Spirit, to work in us this good work; to give us a humble and contrite heart; that we, considering our need, and the greatness of that we do desire, may be filled with faith and trust, that Thou wilt grant us our requests; seeing that Thou hast not spared Thine own Son, but hast given Him up for us all; and may present acceptable petitions unto Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate.

We beseech Thee, therefore, of Thy rich mercy, wherein Thou art plentiful to all them that call upon Thee, to forgive us our sins, our unthankfulness, unbelief, self-love, and neglect of Thy Word; our doubts of Thy mercy and good will towards us; our insensibility to Thy great goodness and long-suffering. And to this Thy mercy and correction add, we beseech Thee, these Thy gracious gifts;—repentance, faith, the spirit of prayer, contempt of worldly and carnal pleasures, and a hearty desire after everlasting life.

Grant us Thy Holy Spirit, according to Thy gracious promise, both to assure us of pardon, and of our acceptance in and through

our Lord Jesus Christ; and also to sanctify us, to write Thy law in our hearts, and so to work in us that we may truly believe, love, serve, and obey Thee.

And finally, when it shall be Thy good pleasure, deliver us, we beseech Thee, out of the troubles and temptations of this world, by such means, whether by death or life, as may be most for our good, and for Thy glory. And in the meantime vouchsafe to guide and govern us by Thy Holy Spirit, and to support our hearts by His abiding consolation.

Hear us, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BRADFORD.

SATURDAY MORNING.

HONOUR and praise be unto Thee, O Father Almighty, for all Thy mercy and loving-kindness. Thou hast created us after Thine own image; Thou hast redeemed us with the precious blood of Thy dear Son; Thou sanctifiest us by Thy Holy Spirit, through the knowledge of Thy Holy Word; Thou succourest us in all our necessities; Thou comfortest us in all our tribulations; Thou bearest with our transgressions, and givest us space for repentance.

These benefits, O most merciful Father, we have received of Thy goodness, and we beseech Thee, for Thy dear Son's sake, to grant us always Thy Holy Spirit, that we may continually grow in thankfulness to Thee; may be led into all truth, and comforted in all our adversities. O Lord, strengthen our faith; kindle it into more

fervency and love towards Thee, and to our neighbours for Thy sake.

Suffer us not, heavenly Father, to receive Thy Word any more in vain; but grant us always the assistance of Thy grace and Holy Spirit; that in heart, word, and deed we may sanctify Thy holy Name; may help to further and increase Thy kingdom; and may be contented with Thy good will and pleasure. Only let us not lack that faith, O Father, without which it is impossible to please Thee; but, giving us that, give us also Thy blessing on the works of our hands; that, having a sufficiency, we may be helpful to our brethren. Be merciful, O Lord, to our transgressions, and seeing that our debt is great which Thou hast forgiven us in Jesus Christ, make us forgiving to all who trespass against us. Be Thou our defender in all temptations; hold Thou us by Thy merciful hand; that we may be delivered from all evil, and finish our course with joy, to the praise and honour of Thy holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let Thy mighty hand and outstretched arm, O Lord, be our defence, Thy mercy

and loving-kindness in Christ Jesus our salvation, Thy true and holy Word our instruction, Thy grace and Holy Spirit our comfort and consolation, unto our lives' end. Amen. O Lord, increase our faith!

BRADFORD.

SATURDAY EVENING.

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we pray Thee, for Thy dear Son's sake, for His death, resurrection, and mediation, forgive us all the sins, iniquities, and trespasses which we have committed against Thee in thought, word, or deed. Though we are sinners, He is righteous; though we are foolish, He is wise; though we are unclean, He is pure and holy. For His sake, therefore, be merciful unto us. Remember how Thou hast promised, that Thou wilt sprinkle clean water upon us, and cleanse us from our sins; that Thou wilt take from us our stony hearts, and give us hearts of flesh. Think upon Thy covenant, that Thou wilt put Thy law in our hearts, and write it in our minds; and that Thou wilt be our God, and we shall be Thy people.

Fulfil all these Thy gracious promises to us, we humbly beseech Thee. Forgive us

our sins; wash us from our wickedness; pour out Thy Holy Spirit upon us. Take away our hard hearts, impenitent, distrusting, idle, covetous, impure; and give us new hearts, faithful, loving, obedient, penitent, and lowly; hearts to fear Thee, to love Thee, to trust in Thee for ever. Write Thy law in our hearts, graft it in our minds, we humbly beseech Thee.

Give us the spirit of prayer, and make us diligent in the works which Thou wouldst have us to do. Take into Thy care and keeping our souls and bodies, our lives, and all that we have: let us not be tempted above that which Thou wilt enable us to bear; and whatsoever Thou knowest us to need for our souls or bodies, do Thou, gracious Father, vouchsafe to give us. Guide us in the way in which we should go, that our lives may please Thee, and our deaths may praise Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for whose sake we pray Thee to grant us these our petitions.

And not for ourselves only would we pray, but for all Thy children, especially for such as are in sickness, want, or any other adversity.

Be merciful to our gracious Sovereign, to her council, and all in authority under her, and to the whole commonalty of the realm: grant us true repentance, and let Thy Gospel have free course and be glorified among us. Think upon our relatives and friends in Thy goodness; and to us, now gathered together in Thy Name, give Thy Holy Spirit, to sanctify us, to dwell in us, and to keep us, this night and for ever, from all evil, to Thine eternal glory, through the merits of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed for evermore. Amen.

BRADFORD.

FOURTH WEEK.

ANONYMOUS PRAYERS OF THE ELIZABETHAN PERIOD.

SUNDAY MORNING.

MOST merciful Father, we render unto Thee all praise, thanks, honour, and glory, for that it hath pleased Thee of Thy great mercy to receive us into the fellowship of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom Thou hast delivered to death for us, and hast given unto us, for our food and nourishment unto everlasting life. Suffer us not, O heavenly Father, to forget these Thy great benefits, but so imprint them in our hearts, that we may grow and increase daily more and more in true faith, and in all good works. Confirm and strengthen us, O Lord, in these perilous days, that we may constantly stand

and continue in the confession of the truth, to the advancement of Thy glory, who art God over all things, blessed for ever.

Let Thy priests, O Lord, be clothed with righteousness, and let Thy saints rejoice. Pour out Thy Spirit of wisdom and understanding upon the ministers of Thy word, that they may know the mysteries of Thy holy will. Give them the gift of utterance, that they may set forth the abundant riches of Thy Gospel. Write Thy law in their hearts, and Thy testimonies in their minds, that they may lead Thy people into all truth, and rule Thy Church with discretion. Make them good workmen, faithful shepherds, and wise builders; that they may restore the broken walls, feed Thy flock with the bread and water of life, dress and keep Thy vineyard, repair Thy holy sanctuary, and bring in the vessels dedicated to Thy service. Let them shine with such light of pure and holy conversation before men, that they may edify no less by example of life than by instruction of teaching; to the intent that men, beholding their modesty, meekness, wisdom, patience, charity, and all other virtues wherewith Thou

hast endued them to the benefit of Thy Church, may be won to Thy Gospel by the holiness of their conversation, and confess the glory of Thy Name, who livest, reignest, workest, and dwellest in them.

Where charity and love are, there is the congregation of the saints. There is neither wrath nor disdain, but stedfast charity for ever. Grant us, therefore, O Lord God, that we may love one another unfeignedly: for where love is, there art Thou; and he that loveth his brother is born of Thee, and dwelleth in Thee, and Thou in him.

And where brethren do glorify Thee with one accord, there dost Thou pour out Thy blessing upon them. Love us, therefore, O Lord, and shed Thy love into our hearts, that we may love Thee, and our brethren in Thee and for Thee, as all children to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD and merciful Father, we humbly fall before Thy Divine Majesty, earnestly beseeching Thee that the seed of Thy Word may take root in our hearts, and that no cares of this world, nor lust of other things, may make it unfruitful, but that, like seed sown in good ground, it may bring forth and bear abundantly. And since we have continual need to crave many things at Thine hands, we beseech Thee, heavenly Father, to grant us Thy Holy Spirit, to direct our petitions, and make us to ask such things as are agreeable to Thy blessed will.

Thou knowest, O Lord, with how many temptations we are on every side encompassed: let Thy strength sustain our weakness, and so assist us with Thy grace that we may be preserved from the assaults of Satan, who goeth about seeking whom he

may devour. Increase our faith, we pray Thee, that we swerve not at any time from Thy holy Word; and so lead us forward in hope and love, and in the keeping of Thy commandments, that no hardness of heart nor enticements of the world or the flesh may draw us away from Thee.

O Lord our heavenly Father, who by Thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications for all men, we beseech Thee to bring back all such as are ignorant or out of the way to the understanding of Thy heavenly truth. May all the pastors and ministers to whom Thou hast committed the dispensation of Thy holy Word be found faithful both in life and doctrine, and set before them only Thy glory, that by them all such as wander and go astray may be gathered and brought home to Thy fold.

Moreover, because the hearts of rulers are in Thy hands, we beseech Thee to direct and govern all kings and magistrates, and especially our sovereign lady the Queen, her counsellors, and all the estates of the realm. Let Thy fatherly favour so preserve them, and Thy Holy Spirit so govern them, that

Thy religion may be purely maintained, all wrong-doing corrected, and sin punished, according to the rule of Thy holy Word.

Finally, we make our humble requests unto Thee for all such as are afflicted or distressed with poverty, war, famine, sickness, or any other adversity, whether it be grief of body or unquietness of mind; that it may please Thee to give them patience and constancy, until Thou send them full deliverance out of all their troubles; so that by their life and death Thy glory may be advanced and the kingdom of Christ increased, in whose Name we make our humble petitions unto Thee. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL GOD, who by Thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord hast reconciled unto Thyself all things in heaven and earth, and in Him hast made an everlasting covenant with all Thy faithful children, give us grace to come unto Thee, as unto our most merciful Father, in full assurance that Thou wilt not deny us anything which Thou knowest to be expedient for us. And grant that we, being fully persuaded of Thy fatherly love and affection, may be stirred up to make our prayers unto Thee with ardent desire; with love and reverence to Thy Divine Majesty, and with full trust in Thy merciful protection. Enlighten our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may, in all our doings, chiefly seek Thy glory; may acknowledge Thee as the ruler and governor of all things; and may

never dishonour Thy holy Name by distrust, or doubt of Thy gracious providence. In every time of need may we flee unto Thee as a sure refuge; and at all times may Thy glorious Name be hallowed, in all our life and conversation.

Let Thy kingdom come, most merciful Father, and be manifestly declared in all the world; but especially in Thy Holy Church, Thine own flock. Show Thyself Lord and King over them; ruling them by Thy holy Word, and guiding them by Thine own Spirit. Increase the number of faithful preachers of Thy Word; and bless their labours to the increase of the kingdom of Thy dear Son. Grant these mercies, O Lord, not only to Thy Church in general; but let every one of us feel the power of Thy kingdom in our own hearts. Subdue in us the old nature with its corrupt desires, and renew in us day by day the spiritual man, that we may delight to do those things which are acceptable in Thy sight.

Mould our hearts, gracious Lord, into such humble obedience to Thy holy will, that we may be entirely content with whatsoever it

pleaseth Thy goodness to allot to us; and that in trouble we may patiently abide Thy good pleasure, and wait Thy time of deliverance.

So bless the labours of our hands, that we may have sufficient for the wants of this present life; and teach us to receive Thy benefits, as stewards of Thy gifts, and to use them to the help of our brethren, and to Thy praise and glory.

Increase in us, good Lord, the gift of faith, that we may daily be more and more assured that our sins are blotted out and covered by the full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice of Thy dear Son; and that, loving Thee with our whole hearts for this Thine unspeakable goodness, we may forgive our brethren whensoever they offend against us; may pray for them, love and comfort them, even as Thou, for Christ's sake, hast shown mercy upon us.

Strengthen us, good Lord, with Thy Holy Spirit, against the wiles and temptations of the devil; hold us with Thy merciful hand, that we be not drawn away by the enticements of the world or the flesh. Arm us with Thy mighty power, that we may withstand the

assaults of our enemy, and may walk before Thee, to Thy honour and glory, to the health of our souls and the profit of Thy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in Him our Father; the Father of mercies and God of all consolation, have mercy upon us, and hearken to our prayers. We humbly beseech Thee, for Thy dear Son Jesus Christ's sake, to send into our hearts Thy Spirit of Truth, to work in us a true, lively, and stedfast faith; that the clear light and brightness of Thy Gospel, the glory of Christ, may shine into our hearts and lighten our minds, that we may learn and understand the wonderful and unspeakable riches of the mystery of our redemption in Christ Jesus.

O Father of glory, give unto us the spirit of wisdom, and bring us unto the true knowledge of Thy beloved Son Christ Jesus, and of Thyself as revealed in Him. Enlighten the eyes of our understanding, that we may know what is the hope whereunto Thou hast called us, and what the riches of the glory of Thine inheritance in the saints, and the exceeding

greatness of Thy power towards them that believe; that by true faith we may be indeed Thy children; worshipping Thee in spirit and in truth; and showing forth the glory of Thy grace, given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Heavenly Father, write in our hearts true love to Thy law, hatred of all sin, and thankfulness of heart; and give us at all times the comfort and teaching of Thy Holy Spirit, for Thy Son Jesus Christ's sake.

O Lord Jesu Christ, who wast crucified for us, grant that we, being crucified with Thee, may rise again with Thee to everlasting life. Grant that we may put off the old Adam, and in newness of life may be transformed into Thy likeness; all sin, unbelief, and the whole tyranny of Satan being vanquished and overcome. Grant that by Thy cross and suffering, Thy yoke may be made light to us, and Thy burden easy; that willingly and gladly following Thee, we may come whither Thou art gone; even to Thy Father most blessed and immortal, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY GOD and most merciful Father, we do not present ourselves before Thy Divine Majesty, trusting in our own merits or worthiness; but in Thy manifold and great mercies. Thou hast promised to hear the prayers which are made to Thee in the name of Thy beloved Son, who hath also commanded us to assemble ourselves together in His name, and hath assured us that He will be amongst us, and will be our Mediator and Advocate with Thee, that we may obtain all things which shall seem expedient to Thy blessed will. Therefore, most merciful Father, we beseech Thee to look with favour and compassion towards us; impute not unto us our manifold sins and offences, but receive us to Thy mercy for Jesus Christ's sake, accepting His death and passion as a full satisfaction for all our transgressions; seeing that in Him Thou art always well pleased,

and that His intercession Thou hearest always.

And, seeing that of Thy mercy we have quietly passed the night; grant, heavenly Father, that we may employ the day in Thy service, so that all our thoughts and words and works may redound to Thy glory. And as in Thy great love and favour Thou hast created us in Thine own image and likeness, and hast called us to be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom, we beseech Thee to increase our faith, to enlarge our knowledge, and to enlighten our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may live in godly conversation and pureness of life.

And since Thou hast commanded us to make prayers and supplications for all men, we beseech Thee, not for ourselves only, but for all peoples and nations, that they may not only know Thee by Thy wonderful works, but be instructed by Thy Holy Spirit to receive Thy Son Jesus Christ as their only Saviour. And, forasmuch as faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, we pray Thee to raise up faithful stewards of Thy mysteries, who may, both by their life

and doctrine, set forth Thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all men. And since we be fallen into the latter days, wherein iniquity doth abound, and the love of many doth wax cold, we entreat Thee to maintain Thine own cause, and strengthen all Thy faithful servants. Let not our sins and wickedness be a hindrance to Thy truth, but consider our necessities, and help us speedily. We, miserable sinners, bewail our manifold transgressions; we earnestly repent us of our pride, our slothfulness, our coldness of heart; and though we cannot of ourselves purchase Thy pardon, we humbly beseech Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake, to show Thy mercy upon us and receive us into Thy favour. Grant us, O Father, these our requests, and all other things needful for us, according to Thy promise in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O LORD, prepare our hearts to pray; bow down Thine ears, O Father, and hear us, for Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ's sake, and receive our humble confession, which we make unto Thee. We have broken Thy laws, and deserve Thy heavy chastisements, if Thou shouldest enter into judgment with our sins. Nevertheless, we pray Thee to turn away Thy face from our offences, and for Jesus Christ's sake to forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may have the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins, sealed by Thy Holy Spirit in our consciences, and knowing that we are at one with Thee, may have our hearts kindled with Thy love so fervently that it may consume in us all that is against Thy holy will.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to perfect that which Thou hast begun in us, that we being made partakers of the passion of Thy dear

Son Jesus Christ, may come also to the fellowship of His resurrection; that when we shall appear before Thee, our bodies may be changed and made like unto His glorious body; and that we may in the meantime rise from the death of sin to newness of life, and let our good works so shine before men that they, seeing them, may glorify Thee our heavenly Father.

And we most humbly thank Thee, O merciful Lord, for all Thy loving-kindnesses bestowed upon us from time to time, and especially for Thine infinite love in calling us by the voice of Thy Holy Gospel, and giving us all things necessary for our salvation. We beseech Thee, increase Thy grace upon us, and forasmuch as we have not to wrestle with flesh and blood, but with the powers of darkness, give us the strength of Thy Holy Spirit, wherewith we, being armed on every side, may be prepared against all assaults of our enemies. And because through our weakness we oftentimes give way, we pray Thee that with the hand of faith we may lay hold on the conquest of our Saviour Jesus Christ; so that though we

be not able to overcome in ourselves, we may conquer in Him, who hath overcome for us all, and so be made partakers of His glorious victory.

We thank Thee also, O Father, for all the gifts both of body and soul which pertain unto this present life, beseeching Thee to increase them upon us and in us, so far as Thou seest good for Thy glory, the benefit of others, and our own comfort. And we pray Thee to teach us by Thy Holy Spirit the lawful use of them; that Thou wouldst not suffer our hearts to be rooted in them, but that at all times we may be willing to part with them. And whensoever it shall please Thee to call for us, may we willingly go unto Thee, as to our heavenly Father, and to the kingdom which Thou hast prepared for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O MOST MIGHTY GOD, our merciful and gracious Father, we sinners come unto Thee in the name of Thy dearly-beloved Son, humbly beseeching Thee for His sake to be merciful unto us, and to cast all our sins out of Thy remembrance, for the merits of His death and passion.

Pour upon us, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit of wisdom and grace. Govern and lead us by Thy holy Word, and let it be a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our steps. Show Thy mercy unto us, and so lighten the blindness and darkness of our hearts, that we may daily be renewed by Thy Spirit and grace. So cleanse and purify our minds, by the same Spirit, that we may profitably read, hear, and understand Thy Word, and hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life.

So destroy the power of sin in our hearts, that our lives may show forth our faith in

Thee. Hear the prayers of Thy servants, and grant us Thy peace all the days of our life. Pitifully remember our infirmities, and protect us in all dangers, of body, soul, or spirit; but chiefly defend us from the assaults of Satan, who goeth about seeking whom he may devour.

Be merciful to Thy universal Church, and especially to our sovereign lady the Queen; graft in her heart the love of Thy Name, give her the victory over all her enemies; grant unto her a long, prosperous, and honourable life upon earth, a blessed end, and life everlasting. Grant unto her counsellors and to every member of Thy Church, that they and we, in our several callings, may truly and godly serve Thee. Plant in our hearts true fear and honour of Thy Name, obedience to our rulers, and love to our neighbours. Increase in us true faith and religion; replenish our minds with all goodness, and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same unto the end of our lives. Give unto us a godly zeal in prayer, true humility in prosperity, perfect patience in adversity, and continual joy in the Holy Ghost.

Lastly, we commend unto Thy fatherly protection this family, and all those who are dear unto us. May they be governed, nourished, and preserved in Thy fear and service. And forasmuch as in this world we must be always at war and strife, not only with flesh and blood, but with the powers of darkness, grant us Thy grace, that being armed with Thy defence, we may stand in the battle with an invincible constancy, until, having ended the combat, we may attain in the end to Thy heavenly rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O LORD GOD, Father of mercies, and God of all consolation, we sinners do beseech Thee of Thy fatherly goodness to look upon us, and so to make us partakers of Thy grace, that we, continually increasing in all goodness, may set forth the praise of Thy Name, and after this transitory life may behold Thy glory, who only hast immortality, and dwellest in light that no man can approach unto.

Remove far from us our sins and iniquities, that they may not separate between us and Thee. Blot out our offences, and let our prayers be acceptable in Thy sight, that Thou mayest grant our requests. Look upon us with Thy favourable mercy; have pity upon us, and behold us in the righteousness of Thy beloved Son; that we may be presented faultless in Thy sight, and being accepted as holy may find grace evermore to

set forth Thy honour and glory. Let us love, O Lord, the things that are good, and hate the things that are evil; let us delight in all things that may please Thee, and be grieved with whatsoever is displeasing in Thy sight.

And to the intent that we may have true understanding and discernment, we beseech Thee let Thy Word dwell plentifully in us, that we may abound in all knowledge, and do according to Thy will. Grant that being thus instructed in mind, and ready in body to all holy obedience, we may grow and increase evermore, from grace to grace, from faith to faith, until we come to the fulness of the Spirit, to be perfect members of the body of Christ, waiting for the blessed hope of Thine elect, and the glorious appearing of Thy Son, our Lord.

In the meantime let us cry unto Thee, with all those that have received the first-fruits of the Spirit, that these days of sin may cease, that Satan may be trodden under foot, and Thy Name may be made known to thousands that be in ignorance; that the number of Thine elect may be accomplished,

and the body of Thy saints made perfect, when Thy Son shall appear again the second time; which time, O Lord, send quickly according to Thy good will, and teach us to pray with all Thy saints, Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly. Grant this, O Father, for Thy dear Son's sake, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, now and ever. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

GRACIOUS LORD GOD, our merciful Father, we present ourselves before Thy Divine Majesty, acknowledging ourselves to be sinners in Thy sight, who are daily breaking Thy commands, in thought, word, and deed, and deserve at Thy hands wrath and condemnation. But, nevertheless, O Lord, we see Thy goodness towards us, in that Thou hast sent Thy Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, to take upon Him our sins, and to reconcile us with Thee. In Him, therefore, gracious Lord, and through Him, we come unto Thee, beseeching Thee, for His sake, that we, feeling the burden of our sins, may be delivered and released, and may by Thy Holy Spirit be assured and stedfastly believe that Christ hath borne the burden of them even for us. And grant that we, being thus assured, may, through Thy Holy Spirit, be renewed in the inner man; to hate and abhor

sin, and to study to live according to Thy holy will all the days of our life.

Neither do we pray for ourselves only, but for Thy whole Church, wherever scattered, and however troubled. Be gracious unto Thy people in this land: especially unto Thy servant our Sovereign. Grant her all gifts needful for her high calling; that she may advance Thy glory, and rule over her subjects in peace and tranquillity. Preserve and govern her whole council, that they may defend Thy truth, and maintain righteousness and equity in the land.

Be with all the pastors of Thy Church and preachers of Thy Word; increase their numbers; bless their labours; and turn the hearts of the people, that they may be obedient to Thy truth. And to all who are afflicted with any cross or suffering, give Thy grace that they may profit by Thy correction, and arise to newness of life.

For ourselves here present we pray that Thou wouldst make us thankful for all Thy loving-kindness shown unto us, through our whole lives; that Thou hast protected us during the past night, hast given us com-

fortable rest, and hast brought us to the beginning of this day. And as Thou hast graciously preserved us unto this present hour, so we beseech Thee to continue Thy favour towards us this day and ever. Keep us that we be not drawn away by the allurements of this world, or entangled in the snares of sin, but being kept under the shadow of Thy wings, may constantly go forward to the end of our course; that the time which Thou grantest us in this life be not idly or vainly consumed, but diligently used in Thy service. We beseech Thee, that in all our words and works this day, we may have Thee present before us; knowing that Thou searchest even the very thoughts of the heart. Suffer us not to consent to any sin or wickedness, but keep always before us the end of this mortal life, and bring us graciously through all trials and temptations, unto our everlasting rest, with Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, in whose name, for these mercies and whatsoever Thou knowest to be needful for us and the whole Church, we pray unto Thee, who, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, art one God, blessed for ever. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God, and heavenly Father, forasmuch as in Thy holy Word we are commanded to make prayers and supplications for all men, we commend unto Thy goodness and mercy, Thy whole true and living Church, and every member of the same. And seeing that it hath pleased Thee in mercy to pour down Thy heavenly grace upon this land, we pray Thee to continue and increase Thy favour unto us, that Thy glorious Name may be exalted, in sincere, pure, and holy worship. Establish among Thy people in this land the true and holy doctrine of everlasting life, that Thy holy Name alone may be set forth in the light of Thy glorious Gospel, and that Thy Church may flourish and increase, being through Thy protection supported and maintained.

Guide and govern, we beseech Thee, Thy servant our Sovereign; grant her a pure and

perfect zeal, above all things to promote Thy glory; and may this realm, which Thou hast committed to her care, be godly and quietly governed. Endue her counsellors with true wisdom, that in all their consultations they may seek the advancement of Thy glory, the prosperity of Thy Church, and the peaceable government of the realm.

Defend and govern by Thy Holy Spirit the pastors of Thy Church, and labourers in Thy vineyard; that they may feed Thy flock with the food of life, even Thy blessed Word, wherewith their souls may be nourished unto life everlasting.

And grant to all the people of this realm a sincere love and reverence for Thy holy Name; so that every one, in his calling, being by Thy grace supported and guided, may so occupy the talents committed to him, that Thy glory may be advanced, Thy Church enlarged and strengthened, and the realm be brought into all godly prosperity.

Have pity, we beseech Thee, on all those Thy children whom it hath pleased Thee to chasten for their amendment with any affliction of body or mind. Grant that they, being

assured by Thy Holy Spirit that Thou dost design by these Thy corrections to call them back to Thee, may acknowledge their transgressions, and patiently abide Thy fatherly correction, looking for help and comfort from Thee, when it seemest best unto Thy godly wisdom. And may they, by Thy merciful hand delivered, acknowledge evermore Thy wisdom and goodness; and give all praise to Thy glorious Name. Unto whom, heavenly Father, with Thy dear Son, and the Holy Ghost the Comforter, be all praise, adoration, and thanksgiving, world without end. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL GOD, and most merciful Father, we confess and acknowledge before Thy Divine Majesty, that we are miserable sinners, born in sin, and that in us there dwelleth no good thing. We know that we continually transgress Thy holy commandments, and merit Thy wrath and most just condemnation. Yet, O heavenly Father, repenting us of the sins which we have committed against Thee, we do most humbly beseech Thee, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, to show Thy mercy upon us; to forgive us all our sins; to send Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts; that we, acknowledging our unrighteousness, may henceforth mortify our sinful lusts and affections, and may bring forth such fruits as are agreeable to Thy most blessed will. We ask this Thy mercy, not for any worthiness in ourselves, but for the merits and worthiness of Thy dearly-

beloved Son; for whose sake, we are certainly persuaded, Thou wilt grant whatsoever we shall ask, according to Thy will.

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, who hast commanded us to labour in order that we may gain our daily bread, we beseech Thee so to bless our endeavours, that Thy favour may be a witness unto us of Thy bounty and loving-kindness, and that we may know thereby the fatherly care that Thou hast over us. So guide and strengthen us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully labour in our vocation without fraud or deceit, and that we may rather seek to follow Thy holy ordinance, than be led by covetous affection or the desire of gain. And if it please Thee to prosper our labour, give us hearts to help those that have need, according to the ability which Thou hast given us. Grant that we, knowing that all good things come from Thee, may be humble to our neighbours, and not lift up ourselves above others, as though by our own might we had gotten wealth. And if it please Thee to try us by the pains of poverty and need, grant us grace to trust Thy Word, and to lean patiently on Thy faithful promise.

Let us not be so tempted that we fall into distrust, but may we patiently wait until Thou fill us with Thy benefits, and chiefly with Thy heavenly and spiritual treasures; so that we may always give thanks unto Thee, and rest wholly on Thy mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who of Thy immeasurable goodness hast revealed Thyself unto us in Him; O Maker and Preserver of all things; O merciful Judge, who hast said, As I live, I have no pleasure in the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his evil ways and live; who also hast said, Call upon Me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver thee; have mercy upon us, for Jesus Christ's sake, whom Thou wouldest should be made for us a Sacrifice, a Mediator, a Propitiation, to the end that Thou mightest show forth Thy wrath against sin, and Thy unspeakable mercy towards mankind. Sanctify and illuminate our hearts and souls by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may truly believe in Thee, call upon Thee, be thankful unto Thee, and obedient to Thy holy will.

Defend and govern Thy Church, as Thou hast promised; preserve this realm in the faith of Thy holy Name, and maintain the ministry of Thy holy Word and Gospel; that the kingdom of Thy dear Son may advance and increase throughout the world.

O Lord Jesus, who wast crucified for us, and raised again from the dead, and art now exalted at the right hand of God, that Thou mayest give gifts unto men: Thou who hast said, Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you; have mercy upon us; pray the Father for us; sanctify and govern us by Thy Holy Spirit, and help and succour us in all our necessities; as Thou hast promised, saying, I will not leave you comfortless, I will come unto you.

O Holy Spirit, who wast poured upon the Apostles, and wast promised unto us by Jesus our Redeemer, to kindle in us a true faith and calling upon God, make, we pray Thee, to arise in our hearts a true fear of God, and a true faith in the mercy which the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised us for His Son's sake. Be Thou our comforter in all dangers; enlighten our understandings,

and fill our hearts with spiritual desires, and so renew us both in soul and body, that we may die unto sin and live unto righteousness, to the praise of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O BOUNTIFUL LORD JESUS, have pity upon us, mercifully hear us, and despise not our prayers. Thou hast created us; Thou hast redeemed us from the bondage of sin, death, and hell,—not with silver or gold, but with Thy most precious body once offered on the cross, and Thine own blood, shed once for all, for our ransom. Therefore cast us not away, whom by Thy wisdom Thou hast made; despise us not, whom with such cost Thou hast redeemed; nor let our sinfulness destroy that which Thy goodness hath builded. Now, while we live, have mercy upon us; while we have time to repent, look upon us as Thou didst upon Peter, that we too may bewail our sins, and find mercy in life and in death. We acknowledge that if Thou shouldest deal with us according to Thy justice, we have deserved everlasting death. And therefore we cast ourselves on

Thy mercy, O Lord Jesus, trusting to obtain favour, not for our merits, but for Thine, blessed Saviour, who hast given Thyself as an acceptable sacrifice to the Father, to appease His wrath, and to bring all sinners, in true repentance and amendment of life, unto His favour again.

Receive us into the number of Thy chosen; forgive us all our sins; grant us grace to lead a godly and innocent life; give us Thy heavenly wisdom; inspire our hearts with faith, hope, and charity; give us grace to be humble in prosperity; patient in adversity; obedient to those whom Thou hast set over us; faithful and upright in all our dealings; living in holiness and purity before Thee; giving none offence, but doing good, as we have ability, unto all men; so that Thy Name may be glorified in us during this present life, and that finally we may attain unto everlasting life; not for our worthiness, but through Thy mercy, and through the merits of Thy death and passion. And unto Thee, O Lord Jesus, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be endless praise. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, the God of all goodness and wisdom, who art full of mercy and pity, we bless and praise Thee for Thy great wisdom and infinite goodness, which Thou hast shown towards all Thy creatures, but especially towards us, in that Thou hast given us not only being and life, but all other Thine infinite benefits.

Thou hast vouchsafed to deliver us, by the light of Thy Gospel, from the darkness of error and ignorance; Thou hast drawn us out of the dungeon of death, whereunto we were condemned through the corruption of our nature, and hast brought us into the kingdom of Thy well-beloved Son, who gave Himself for our sins, according to Thy good pleasure and everlasting ordinance. Thou hast received us into Thy Church, and hast called us to be partakers of the everlasting inheritance of Thy dear Son, to be of that

royal priesthood which shall offer the sacrifices of eternal praise and thanksgiving to Thy holy Name, in Thy heavenly temple.

Grant unto us that all our lives may be consecrated to continual thanksgiving, to show forth with Thy holy people Thy mighty works, who hast called us out of darkness into Thy wonderful light. Give us grace to offer unto Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to call upon Thy Name. Unto Thee, O King eternal, immortal and invisible; unto Thee, O God, who only art good, and only wise, be honour and glory for ever.

O Lord Jesu Christ, the light of all them that put their trust in Thee, and the only physician of our souls, Thou knowest that darkness and disorder are fallen upon all our powers and senses. Our reason, judgment, understanding, and will are utterly corrupted, so that of ourselves we cannot see nor discern anything aright. And if through Thine enlightenment we attain to the sight of any truth, yet doth the stubbornness of our will rebel against it. Make haste, O Lord, to help us, lest we fall into wilful error and unbelief, and be cast into utter darkness.

Create in us a pure heart, and renew a right spirit within us. Bind up the wounds of our souls, wash them with Thy precious blood, and heal them through the anointing of Thy Holy Spirit. Repair that heavenly image which is defaced in us through sin, and adorn it again with Thine own righteousness; that we, being renewed and sanctified, may render acceptable praises to Thee in Thy holy Church, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, art one God, blessed for ever. Amen.

FIFTH WEEK.

KEN, HALL, ANDREWES, JEREMY TAYLOR, PATRICK, M. HENRY, WILSON.

SUNDAY MORNING.

HOLY, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, we miserable sinners humbly acknowledge that we are unworthy to pray unto Thee; but since Thou hast commanded us to make prayers and intercessions for all men, we, trusting in Thine infinite goodness, commend to Thy mercy and Divine providence the wants and necessities of all mankind.

Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure to restore to Thy universal Church, primitive peace and purity, and to preserve it against the gates of hell. And especially we implore Thy mercy for this nation, for the iniquity of

the land is exceeding great. We are unthankful for Thy blessings, impenitent under Thy judgments, and unprofitable under all the means of grace. And we, here present before Thee, have added our sins to the transgressions of our people.

But turn Thou us, O Lord, and so shall we be turned. Out of the multitude of Thy mercies, give us grace to fear Thee, and to keep Thy commandments always, that it may be well with us, and Thou mayest rejoice over us to do us good.

Defend, O Lord, our Church from all the assaults of schism, heresy, or sacrilege; and bless all bishops, priests, and deacons with apostolical graces, exemplary lives, and sound doctrine. Preserve our Sovereign Lady the Queen; defend her from all her enemies; grant her a long and happy reign; endue her with all gifts and graces, and make her a great promoter of Thy glory. Bless her with abundance of temporal good things, and with eternal glory in the world to come. Grant to all her counsellors wisdom from above; to all magistrates, integrity and zeal for religion; and to all the commons of the

realm pious and just, peaceable and loyal hearts. Grant to the whole nation healthful, fruitful, and peaceful times.

Convert all Jews, Turks, infidels, atheists, and heretics. Give to all malefactors and wicked men timely repentance; to all Thy faithful servants increase of grace and perseverance; and to all that have fallen contrition and pardon.

Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure to bless all those whom we have in any way wronged, and to forgive all those who have wronged us; to comfort the disconsolate, to give health to the sick, ease to those that are in pain, patience to the afflicted, food to the hungry, clothes to the naked, and liberty to the captives. Lord, be Thou a guide to the travellers, safety to those that are at sea, a refuge to the oppressed, a father to the fatherless, and a guardian of the widow. Bless all our relatives, friends, and neighbours. Thou, O Lord, best knowest all our conditions, all our desires, and all our wants. Send us Thy graces and blessings according to our several necessities of body or soul.

Hear, O merciful Father, our supplications,

for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who died for us, and now liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed for ever. Amen.

BISHOP KEN.

SUNDAY EVENING.

BLESSED LORD JESUS, Thou the true God manifested in the flesh, be pleased to manifest to our souls the unspeakable riches of Thy love and mercy to mankind, in the great work of our redemption. Touch our hearts with a lively sense of Thine infinite goodness; in that for our sake Thou camest down, and didst take upon Thyself our flesh, and wast content to undergo a bitter, painful, ignominious death from the hands of men; that by dying Thou mightest overcome death, and by rising again mightest raise us unto everlasting life, liberty, and glory.

Let us not see only, but feel this Thy great mystery of godliness, effectually moving us to all hearty thankfulness for so inestimable a mercy; and to all holy resolutions to glorify Thee in whatsoever we do or suffer. Blessed Lord, who wast manifested in the flesh, not only to be a ransom for our souls, but to be

an example for our lives; O Jesu, the Author and Finisher of our faith and salvation, teach us to tread in Thy gracious steps; to run the race that is set before us; to endure the cross, to despise the shame; to be crucified to the world; and to work all righteousness.

O Thou God of infinite mercy and compassion, in whose hands are all the hearts of the sons of men, look graciously upon the darkened souls of the multitudes who know not Thee. Enlighten them with the saving knowledge of the truth: let the beams of Thy gospel break forth upon them; and bring them to a sound belief in Thee, God manifested in the flesh. Bring in the fulness of the Gentiles; gather together the outcasts of Israel, and make Thy name known over all the earth.

And for us, upon whom the ends of the world are come, as we have been graciously called unto Thy Church, and have professed a belief in Thy name, so keep us, by Thy good Spirit, in a holy and stedfast faith unto our lives' end. Thou seest, blessed Lord Jesus, how many false spirits are gone abroad in the world; preserve us, by Thy mighty

power, through faith unto salvation. Let us not be contented with the knowledge of Thy life, death, and resurrection, but do Thou, by Thy good Spirit, implant in our hearts a lively and justifying faith in Thee, whereby we may believe and trust in Thee as our own Saviour; and rely upon Thee for the free and full forgiveness of all our sins, and for our eternal salvation. Grant this, blessed Lord, to the glory of Thy name, and to our everlasting comfort. Amen.

BISHOP HALL.

MONDAY MORNING.

O THOU that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Our voice shalt Thou hear betimes, O Lord; early in the morning will we direct our prayer unto Thee, and will look up. We yield Thee thanks, almighty Lord, everlasting God, for that Thou hast vouchsafed to preserve us through the past night, not according to our deserts, but according to Thy holy compassion. Grant unto us, O Lord, to pass this day in Thy service. Give Thy angels charge over us, to keep us in all Thy ways. Show us Thy ways, O Lord, and teach us Thy paths. Order our steps in Thy word, so shall no wickedness have dominion over us. Hold up our goings in Thy paths, that our footsteps slip not.

O heavenly Father, we pray for the Catholic Church; for the churches throughout the world; that Thou wilt keep them in

truth, unity, and concord. We pray especially for our own church, that what is wanting in it may be supplied; what is unsound, corrected; that all heresies, schisms, and scandals may be removed. Correct the wandering, convert the unbelieving, and increase the faith of the Church. We pray also for the clergy, that they may rightly divide the word of truth; that they may walk in all godly conversation; and that, while they teach others, they themselves may learn. We pray for all the people, that they may be humble, teachable, and submissive to all lawful authority; for this kingdom, that it may fare well and prosperously, and be delivered from all danger and distress; for our Queen, that Thou wilt help her, and send her prosperity, and crown her with Thy truth and glory; that Thou wilt give prudence to her counsellors, equity and integrity to her judges, and to all her people temperance and godly simplicity.

And we pray for the rising generation, whether in universities or schools; that as they increase in age, they may also increase in wisdom, and in favour with God and man.

We pray for all that show themselves benevolent, whether to the Church or to the poor and needy, do Thou reward them sevenfold into their bosom. May it please Thee to behold and relieve the miseries of the poor; to restore them that have transgressed, and to strengthen them that are falling. Graciously accept our reasonable service; raise our minds to heavenly desires: regard us with the eyes of Thy compassion, and preserve our souls from everlasting death. Grant unto us who make our prayers unto Thee, and to all for whom we are bound to pray, an entrance into Thy kingdom, there to behold Thy presence in righteousness, and to be satisfied with Thy glory. We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord, for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ, who with Thyself and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God blessed for ever. Amen.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

MONDAY EVENING.

O LORD our heavenly Father, holy art Thou, and holy is Thy name above every name; to be reverenced and hallowed of all, and especially of us Thy servants. Yet herein have we been wanting; we confess it before Thee, and humbly entreat Thy pardon, beseeching Thee for grace so to live henceforth that Thy name may be hallowed by us, and by others through us, if it be Thy will.

Let Thy kingdom, for which we wait, come unto us in this state of grace; that we through Thy grace may do Thee service in Thy earthly kingdom, and finally attain to a place in Thy heavenly kingdom.

Let the will of the flesh depart from us, and let Thy holy, just, and gracious will be done by us on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us all things necessary to health and peace. Give us heavenly bread unto life eternal.

Forgive us our debts, our infinite debts, our frequent backslidings, our daily transgressions. To Thee, O Lord, justice belongeth, and to us confusion of face. If Thou, Lord, wert extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it? But with Thee there is mercy, and with Thee is plenteous redemption. Deliver us from all our iniquities; deliver our souls from the pit of destruction.

Lead us not, nor suffer us to be led, nor suffer us to fall, into temptation. Remember our weakness and infirmity, and have compassion upon us, most merciful Father. But deliver us from evil; from the flesh and its temptations; from the devil and his assaults; from the punishments which we most justly have deserved; from evil in the world to come, from evil in this present world; from dangers and diseases; from evil in our work and daily occupation; from all evils past, present, and to come, deliver us, O Lord; and preserve us Thy servants for evermore. O Lord, according to Thy great mercy, let Thy righteous indignation be turned away from us, though we have griev-

ously sinned against Thee. Forgive us all our sins, and especially the sins of this day. Let Thy favourable kindness be upon us; upon this household and all our relatives; upon our friends and neighbours; upon our country, and upon Thy whole Church. Hear us, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth ever one God, world without end. Amen.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

TUESDAY MORNING.

BLESSED art Thou, O Lord our God, who bringest back the day, and lightenest the face of the earth; who deliverest us from the terror by night, the pestilence that walketh in darkness; who makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise Thee. We laid us down and slept, and rose up again, for Thou hast sustained us. Blot out as a thick cloud our transgressions, and as a cloud, our sins. Grant us to be children of the light and of the day; to walk soberly, holily, honestly, as in the day. Keep us this day without sin: Thou who upholdest the falling and liftest the fallen, let not our hearts be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Defend us from the arrow that flieth by day, from the sickness that destroyeth in the noonday. Defend us from the evil of this day. Let not our days be spent in vanity, nor our years in sorrow. Let us hear Thy

loving-kindness betimes in the morning, for in Thee is our trust: show us the way that we should walk in, for we lift up our souls unto Thee. Teach us to do the thing that pleaseth Thee, for thou art our God; let Thy loving spirit lead us forth into the land of uprightness. Quicken us, O Lord, for Thy name's sake; and for Thy righteousness' sake, bring our souls out of trouble.

Remove from us foolish imaginations. Turn away our eyes from beholding vanity; and open our ears to the instructions of Thy word. Set a watch, O Lord, upon our mouths, and keep the door of our lips. Let our speech be seasoned with salt, that it may minister grace to the hearers. Let us do some work for which Thou wilt remember us for good, and spare us according to the greatness of Thy mercy. Into Thy hands we commend our spirits, souls, and bodies, for Thou hast created and redeemed us, O Lord God of truth. Guard us from all evil; guard our souls, we beseech Thee, O Lord. Keep us from falling, that at the last we may be presented faultless in the presence of Thy glory.

Guard our going out and coming in henceforth and for ever; prosper Thy servants this day; turn Thee unto us, and have mercy upon us; show some token upon us for good, that all men may see that Thou, Lord, hast holpen us, and hast comforted us. Grant these petitions, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord, who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

BISHOP ANDREWES.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, great Lord of heaven and earth, we sinners cast ourselves down before Thee, humbly confessing our manifold sins and wickednesses, by which we have deserved Thy wrath, and to be separated from Thy presence for ever. We have sinned against Thee wilfully and ignorantly, by word and deed, by night and by day, by the lusts of the flesh, and the vanity of the spirit. Our sins of omission are infinite, and the sins of our tongues cannot be numbered. O God, Thy laws are holy, and Thy judgments are terrible; but we have broken Thy laws, and are afraid of Thy judgments.

But Thou shalt answer for us, O Lord our God. Thou art our Judge; but Thou art our Redeemer; we have sinned, but Thou, O blessed Jesus, art our Advocate. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most miserable

sinners; enter not into judgment with us; but spare us, gracious Lord, spare Thy servants whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious blood. Reserve not evil in store for us against the day of vengeance; but show Thy goodness in us, and let Thy mercies be magnified upon us. Deliver us, O Lord, from the power of sin, and preserve us from the punishments of it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord our God, whose power is infinite, whose goodness is unspeakable, despise not Thy servants, who beg for pardon and to be reconciled to Thee. Sanctify, O God, our bodies and souls; search out our spirits, and cast out all iniquity from within us; all false reasonings and impure desires, all pride and envy, all hypocrisy and deceit, all inordinate love of this world, and base covetousness; all hardness of heart, peevishness and anger, all malice and revenge, all blasphemy and irreligion; and every motion of soul and body which can withdraw us from Thee, and is against Thy will and commandment.

Gracious Father, give us perfect pardon for what is past, and a perfect repentance of

all our sins, that for the time to come we may with pure minds, with broken and contrite hearts, with sanctified lips and holy desires, serve Thee religiously, walk humbly with Thee, converse justly and charitably with men, and possess our souls in patience and holiness, and our bodies in sanctification and honour, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, King of heaven and earth, receive Thy servants approaching to the throne of grace in the name of Jesus Christ; give unto every one of us what is best for us; cast out all evil from within us; work in us the fulness of holiness, of wisdom, and spiritual understanding, that we, increasing in the knowledge of Thee, may be fruitful in every good work, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Almighty Father, who dwellest in the light to which no man can approach, in Thy presence is no night; in the light of Thy countenance is perpetual day. We Thy servants whom Thou hast preserved in the past night, who bless and glorify Thee this day, who live by Thy power, who desire to walk by Thy laws, to be blessed by Thy providence, to be defended by Thy almighty hand, humbly pray unto Thee that this day

and all the days of our life may be holy and peaceable. Send Thy Holy Spirit, the Spirit of peace, to be the guide of our way, the guard of our souls and bodies. Grant that all the events of this day may be healthful to our bodies, and profitable to our souls, and that we may spend the remainder of our lives in blessing, peace, and holiness. May the end of our days be Christian, without shame or fear; and when we shall appear before Thy dreadful seat of judgment, grant that we may not be confounded, but may stand upright in the congregation of the saints, acquitted by the death of Christ, justified by His resurrection, pardoned by His sentence, and saved by His mercy; that we may rejoice in His salvation, and sing Thy praises for ever and ever.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, for Thy holy Church universal, which Thou hast redeemed with Thy blood, sealed and sanctified with Thy Spirit. Drive away all heresies and false doctrines; unite all her divisions; prosper her with Thy favour, that she may daily celebrate Thy name with holy obedience, and pure spiritual sacrifices, that she may be ac-

cepted in her continual prayers, and that the gates of hell may never prevail against her.

In mercy remember the poor and needy, the widows and fatherless, the stranger and the friendless, the oppressed and afflicted, the aged and sickly, the young and the tempted, the weak of heart, and the weak of body, them that languish, and them that are dying. Relieve their necessities, comfort their sorrows, sanctify their calamities, strengthen their weaknesses, and in Thy due time deliver them from their bondage into the glorious liberty of Thy sons, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, to whose tender compassion we owe our safety in the day past, together with all the comforts of this present life, and the hopes of that which is to come: we praise and laud Thee, O Lord our Creator; unto Thee do we give thanks, O God, our exceeding joy, who daily pourest Thy benefits upon us.

Blessed be Thy great goodness or he health which by Thy favour we have enjoyed, for food and raiment, for peace and safety; for the love of our friends, and the help of our neighbours; for the success which Thou hast given to our labours, and above all for that wonderful grace which sent Thy Son Jesus Christ to reveal unto us eternal life.

O Lord, we present ourselves here before Thee, beseeching Thee to inspire us with

such a full sense of Thy love as may move us more powerfully towards Thee, and set us forward with greater earnestness, zeal, and diligence in all our duty. Grant that Jesus our Lord, the hope of glory, may be formed in us, in all humility, meekness, patience, contentedness, and absolute surrender of our souls and bodies to Thy holy will and pleasure; that we may no longer live, but Christ may live in us; and the life we lead in the flesh may be by the faith of Thy Son, O God, who loved us, and gave Himself for us. Leave us not, nor forsake us, O Father, but conduct us safe through all changes of our condition here, in an unchangeable love to Thee, and in holy tranquillity of mind in Thy love to us, till we come to dwell with Thee, and rejoice in Thee for ever.

And now that we are about to lay ourselves down to sleep, take us into Thy gracious protection, and grant unto us such quiet and blissful thoughts of the glory where our Lord Jesus liveth, that we may be willing to depart hence and be with Him, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep we should live together with Him.

To Thy blessing we commend all mankind, of whatsoever rank or condition they be; high and low, rich and poor. And especially we beseech Thee that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Thy governance, that Thy Church may joyfully serve Thee in all godly quietness. Grant, O Lord, these our petitions for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

BISHOP PATRICK.

THURSDAY MORNING.

WE humble ourselves, O Lord of heaven and earth, before Thy glorious majesty; we heartily acknowledge Thy sovereign dominion over us and all Thy creatures; we praise and magnify Thy eternal power, wisdom, goodness, and truth; and we render Thee our most unfeigned thanks for the innumerable benefits which Thou in Thy bounty hast loaded us withal; above all, for the gracious declaration Thou hast made of Thy goodwill to us in Christ Jesus; by whom Thou hast invited us to return unto Thee, and hast directed us in the way of everlasting life.

We acknowledge and bewail our forgetfulness of Thee, and ingratitude to Thee. We most humbly implore Thy tender mercies in the forgiveness of all our sins, whereby we have offended Thee in thought, word, and deed. We are truly sorry for all our misdoings; we utterly renounce whatsoever is contrary to

Thy will, and here devote ourselves entirely to the obedience thereof. Accept, O most merciful Father, of this renewed dedication which we make of ourselves, our bodies, souls, and spirits unto Thee. And as Thou dost inspire us with holy resolutions, so accompany them always with the assistance of Thy grace; that we may be able every day to offer up ourselves more sincerely, and more cheerfully to Thee; with more pure affection, and hearty devotion, and ready disposition to Thy service.

Preserve, O Lord, in our minds a grateful sense of Thy mighty love, that we may follow the doctrine and example of Thy Son Christ Jesus, as becometh those who look for so great salvation at the day of His glorious appearing. Grant that we may be like Him, pure and undefiled, meek and gentle, humble and lowly, just and merciful, peaceable and patient, contented and thankful. Fulfil unto us all the gracious promises that He hath made unto us. O Lord, let it be unto Thy servants according to His word.

Thou hast mercifully kept us in the past night; receive us likewise all this day into

Thy protection. We trust ourselves and all belonging to us with Thee, our Creator and Redeemer. We submit ourselves to Thy will, to do and suffer whatsoever Thou pleasest; waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

And we pray unto Thee, O heavenly Father, for the good of all mankind, especially of all Christian people; that they may walk worthy of the Gospel, and live together in unity and godly love. And we beseech Thee for all Christian kings, princes, and governors, that they may be wise, pious, just, and merciful; endeavouring that all their subjects may lead peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Bless all our spiritual pastors and instructors; prosper their labours; and give us grace to follow their godly admonition; to esteem them very highly in love for their works' sake; and to be at peace among ourselves.

The same blessings we beg for all our friends, relatives, and neighbours; that we may all live in perfect love and peace together, so faithfully fulfilling our duties to Thee, to each other, and to all men, that we may re-

joice together at the great day of the Lord Jesus. Hear us, O Father, for His sake, to whom with Thyself and the Holy Ghost be all honour and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

BISHOP PATRICK.

THURSDAY EVENING.

WE prostrate ourselves before Thee, O Lord of heaven and earth, and join ourselves to that holy company who rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was and is and is to come. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honour, and power; for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created. We bless Thy Divine goodness which hath made us but little lower than the angels, and crowned us with such glory and honour that we can unite with the heavenly host in giving continued thanks and praise unto Thee.

We praise Thy name for life, reason, and understanding, for the comforts of this present life, and for the good hope of immortal happiness through Jesus Christ our Lord. We rejoice in His light and devote ourselves to be His disciples, who is the Prince of Peace,

the Lord of life and glory. Give us grace to be governed by Him, and to obey His commandments. Teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

We surrender our wills, O Lord, to Thine; desiring that we may unchangeably cleave unto Thee with entire love and affection. Grant that there may ever abide in us such a sense of Thy love towards us in Christ Jesus, as may constrain us freely and willingly to please Thee, in all piety and devotion, in righteousness and mercy, in temperance and chastity, in meekness and patience, in truth and fidelity. Give unto us such a humble, contented, and peaceable spirit as may adorn the religion of our Lord and Master. O God, let not holy desires and inclinations languish and die in our hearts, but be quickened and kept alive by the perpetual inspiration of the Holy Ghost.

We commend to Thy mercies all our friends, relatives, and benefactors; desiring that all who have done us good may be requited an hundredfold here, and obtain at the last eternal life. And all that have done

evil to us, as we heartily forgive them, so we earnestly desire that they may obtain Thy gracious pardon. Together with these we remember likewise all that are in affliction, whether it be of soul or body. Give unto them ease and comfort, and seasonable relief; that they may rejoice in the end for the days wherein they have seen adversity.

We commend ourselves to Thy protection this night. Grant that we may lay ourselves down to sleep with hearts full of love to Thee, and humble faith and hope in Thee; grant that awaking in like manner we may be still with Thee. Dispose us, good Lord, by the rest Thou givest us, to serve Thee more zealously on the morrow; that after this life is ended we may come to Thy eternal rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BISHOP PATRICK.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O LORD our God, we desire with all humility and reverence to adore Thee, who art infinitely blessed and glorious, who hast all perfection in Thyself, and art the Fountain of all being, power, life, and perfection.

Thou art good to all, and Thy tender mercies are over all Thy works. O look upon us now, and be merciful unto us, as Thou usest to do unto those who love Thy name.

We thank Thee for the mercies of the night past; that we laid us down and slept, and waked up again in safety, because Thou hast sustained us: that no plague has come nigh our dwelling, but that we are brought in safety to the beginning of another day.

We acknowledge that we are unworthy of all the truth and mercy which Thou hast showed unto us; we have sinned against Thee, we are guilty before Thee; we have

corrupt and sinful natures, backward to good, and prone to evil continually. We are cold and defective in our love to Thee; we are weak in our desires after Thee; and cannot walk with Thee as we ought to do. But we pray Thee to forgive all our sins for Christ's sake, and be at peace with us, in Him who died to make peace, and ever liveth making intercession for us.

O Lord, lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us: let Thy peace rule in our hearts; and may it be our strength and our song, in the house of our pilgrimage. We commit ourselves to Thy care and keeping this day; watch over us for good: compass us about with Thy favour as with a shield: preserve us from all evil: yea, the Lord preserve and keep our souls.

Our bodies and all our worldly affairs we commit to the conduct of Thy wise and gracious providence, and submit to its disposals. Let no harm happen unto us; keep us in health and safety; prosper us in all our lawful undertakings, and give us comfort and success in them. Our souls we commit to the government of Thy Spirit and grace. Let Thy

grace be mighty in us, and sufficient for us, and let it work in us both to will and to do, of Thine own good pleasure. Grant us strength for all the duties of the day; that we may do all things after a godly sort, acknowledging Thee in all our ways; and be Thou pleased to direct our steps.

Keep us from sin: give us the rule over our own spirits; and keep us from speaking unadvisedly with our lips. May we live together in peace and holy love, and do Thou command Thy blessing upon us, even life for evermore. Make us conscientious in all our dealings, always watchful against sin; as becomes those who see Thine eye ever upon them. Prepare us for all the events of the day; for we know not what a day may bring forth. Give us grace to deny ourselves; to take up our cross daily, and to follow in the steps of our Lord and Master.

We humbly pray Thee, for Christ's sake, to pardon our sins, accept our services, and grant an answer of peace to our prayers; even for His sake who died for us and rose again, and who hath taught us to pray, saying, Our Father, &c.

M. HENRY.

FRIDAY EVENING.

MOST holy, blessed, and glorious Lord God, whose we are, and whom we are bound to serve, we are not our own, but Thine, and unto Thee do we lift up our souls.

Thou givest unto all life, and breath, and all things. Thou hast fed us, and kept us all our life long, unto this day. One day telleth another, and one night certifieth another, that Thou art good and doest good, and never failest those that seek Thee. Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and of the evening to praise Thee.

Through Thy good hand upon us we have been brought in safety to the close of another day; and we come together to mention Thy loving-kindness, O Lord, and Thy praises, O God, for Thou art good, and Thy mercy endureth for ever.

We bless Thee for bodily health and comfort, for a quiet dwelling-place, and that Thou

hast given us a good land, in which we dwell safely, none making us afraid. But, above all, we bless Thee, for Jesus Christ and His great salvation, for the covenant of grace made with us in Him, and for all the exceeding great and precious promises and privileges of that covenant; for the throne of grace, to which we may come in His name with humble boldness, and for the blessed hope of eternal life through Him. We confess that we have sinned against Thee: this day have we sinned and done foolishly. O Lord, Thou knowest our foolishness, and our sins are not hidden from Thee. Who can understand his errors; O cleanse Thou us from our secret faults.

We pray Thee to give us repentance for our sins of daily infirmity, and make us duly sensible of the evil of them, and let the blood of Christ cleanse us from them, that we may lie down to-night at peace with Thee. We commit ourselves to Thy care; be Thou our habitation, and let our souls be at rest in Thee. Refresh our bodies, we pray Thee, with quiet and comfortable rest; but especially let our souls be refreshed with Thy *love*, and the light of Thy countenance.

Restore us, if it please Thee, to another day in safety, and prepare us for the duties and events of it; and by all the supports and comforts of this life, let our bodies be fitted for Thy service, that we may glorify Thee in all things, remembering that we are not our own, but are bought with a price.

Be gracious to all that are dear to us; grant us health and prosperity, but especially let our souls prosper; and may we who now live together upon earth, be together for ever with Thee in heaven. Do for us, we pray Thee, abundantly above that we are able to ask or think, for the sake of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom, with the Father and the Eternal Spirit, be all honour, praise, and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

M. HENRY.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O MOST gracious and merciful God, by whom the world is governed and preserved, we give Thee humble thanks for Thy fatherly care over us; in preserving us from the dangers of the night past, and in bringing us to see the light of another day.

We gratefully acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, for all the necessaries and comforts of our life; for all the means of grace here, and for the hope of everlasting life hereafter.

We give Thee thanks for the light of Thy gospel, and the help of Thy grace; and for the promise Thou hast made us, of pardon and forgiveness, through Thy Son Jesus Christ, to all who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto Thee. Give us, we beseech Thee, such a sense of these and all other Thy mercies, as may make us truly and unfeignedly thankful. Grant us grace

that we may ever walk as in Thy sight; may take heed unto our ways, and fearing to offend Thee, may be preserved from falling into those sins from which Thou hast redeemed us. Enable us to resist and overcome the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; to follow the leadings of Thy Holy Spirit; to be true and just in all our dealings; watchful over our thoughts, and words, and actions; to be diligent in our business, and temperate in all things.

Teach us rightly to employ the talents which Thou hast committed to our trust; and may no worldly business or pleasures divert our minds from the concerns of the life to come. May Thy blessing rest upon our souls and bodies, our labours, our substance, and upon all that belongs to us. May Thy grace defend us from all assaults of our enemies; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in Thy sight.

Give us, gracious Lord, whatever Thou seest to be needful for us; keep us from

abusing Thy mercies; give us contented and thankful hearts, and make us ever mindful of the wants of others. But, above all, give us, in this world, the knowledge of Thy truth; and, in the world to come, life everlasting. Hear us, merciful Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

BISHOP WILSON.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, for all the blessings we every day receive from Thy bounty; for all Thy favours and deliverances, known or unknown; for all the visitations and graces of Thy Holy Spirit; we bless Thy good providence: and we beseech Thee still to continue Thy fatherly care over us, forasmuch as we have no power to help ourselves.

Be merciful to us, O God, for we have broken Thy laws, abused Thy patience, despised the means of grace, and resisted Thy good Spirit; making ourselves unworthy of the least of Thy mercies, and deserving of Thy just anger. O Lord, make us to see the evil and the danger of sin; that we may turn to Thee with all our hearts, and bring forth fruits meet for repentance.

Pity our infirmities, and give us grace to overcome them; renew in us Thy image

daily; and keep us from forsaking Thee for the time to come. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Grant that we may so live unto Thee here, that in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, we may be delivered from the power of the devil, and from everlasting death.

Whensoever we are in danger of forgetting Thee, bring us back, O merciful Father, by such ways as to Thee seem most meet; and make us at all times obedient to Thy gracious call.

Deliver us, O God, from the sin that doth most easily beset us; from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life; from all unprofitable and sinful thoughts; from lying lips and a deceitful tongue; from an uncharitable heart, and from an inconstant mind.

Let Thy good Spirit ever be with us, to direct and rule our hearts, to keep us from falling, and to present us blameless before the presence of Thy glory. May He defend us in all dangers, and comfort us in all adversities.

Take us under Thy protection; defend us from the dangers of the night, from the prince and powers of darkness, from all pollutions of flesh and spirit, and keep us in perpetual peace and safety.

In mercy remember all that are in need; all that want Thy help; all that call to Thee for succour. Remember, O merciful God, our friends, our relatives, and all Thy servants, that they may be made partakers of the same blessings which we ask for ourselves. And grant unto us all, that when we depart this life, we may dwell with Thee in life everlasting.

Hear us, O Lord, not according to our unworthy petitions, but according to the riches of Thy mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

BISHOP WILSON.

SIXTH WEEK.

JENKS, VENN, TOPLADY, SCOTT, KNIGHT.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O LORD, the great and mighty God, who art the giver of life and strength, of grace and goodness, without whom we can do nothing, we humbly pray that Thou wilt be graciously present with us this day, to direct, quicken, and further us in all the ways and duties of Thy holy service. Forgive our iniquities, which separate our souls from Thee; and remember not the sins which may justly provoke Thee to hide Thy face from us: but according to Thy mercy remember Thou us, O Lord, and accept our services for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Leave us not to the dulness and hardness, the vanity and deceitfulness of our hearts,

but show the power of Thy heavenly grace in working mightily within us, so sanctifying our minds that we may offer unto Thee faithful and acceptable service, and enjoy that heavenly communion with Thee, which is the only rest of our souls. Let us not approach unto Thee in formality and hypocrisy, nor serve Thee of constraint; but with all readiness and gladness, love and delight, making Thy pleasure to be ours, and Thy Sabbath and service the joy and solace of our souls. Send Thy grace upon us, that we not doing our own works, nor finding our own pleasure, nor speaking our own words, may rest from all sinful ways and from all common labours, and so delight ourselves in Thee, that Thou mayest give us the desires of our hearts.

Bless to us Thy word, O gracious Father, and all the means of grace which through Thy favour we enjoy; that we use not the same in vain, nor to our hurt, but for the instruction of our minds, the amendment of our lives, and the salvation of our souls; still growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Bless Thy servants whom Thou hast ap-

pointed to bless us in Thy name, and to break the bread of life to our souls, that they may speak Thy word as they ought to speak, and give to all their portion in due season. Grant that Thy word delivered by them may be to our conviction, edification, and comfort. O Thou that hast the key of David, who openest and no man shutteth, open our understandings to receive Thy truth, both in the light and in the love of it. Root it so deeply in our hearts, that the fruits may be seen in our lives, and that we be not forgetful hearers, but faithful doers of Thy word.

Grant, O gracious God, that our services this day may be such as may tend to our rejoicing in the great day of Thy appearing and glory; that we hallowing Thy Sabbath on earth may finally be admitted to the joyful celebration of Thy eternal Sabbath in the kingdom of heaven; there with all the church triumphant, to laud and magnify Thy glorious name, and to rejoice in Thy love, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

JENKS.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O LORD our God, Thou art infinitely good, and Thou hast showed us what is good, and what Thou requirest of us, for our good always, that it may go well with us, both now and to all eternity. Thou sendest out Thy light and Thy truth, to make the way of salvation plain before us. Thou hast given us calls and warnings, directions and exhortations, to promote our edification here, and our salvation for ever. But we have loved darkness rather than light, and have followed the suggestions of our own hearts, rather than the teaching of Thy holy Word. Justly mightest Thou have taken away Thy Gospel from us, and left us in our own perverseness and impenitence.

But, O Lord God, merciful and gracious, we pray Thee that Thou wilt not so enter into judgment with Thy servants. Pardon all our contempt of Thy Word, and our neglect

of the means of grace. And as the rain descends from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it fruitful, so let not Thy Word return unto Thee void, but let it accomplish Thy good pleasure, and prosper in that whereunto Thou art pleased to send it. Make it effectual to bring forth faith in our hearts, and to establish and increase it in them that believe; and so to build us up in the fear and love of God, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to walk worthy of Thee, becoming daily more fruitful in every good work, to do that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight.

O Lord, let us not receive Thy grace in vain; let not Thy mercies be lost upon us, but let us thankfully receive and diligently use Thy grace and bounty, so that Thou mayest not withdraw Thy tender mercies from us, but still continue Thy loving-kindness to us, and rejoice over us, to do us good.

In mercy pardon all that Thy pure and holy eyes have seen amiss this day, in any of our thoughts or desires, our words or actions. Forgive the iniquities of our holy things;

enter not into judgment with us, even for the best of our works and services; but pardon all our sins, and negligences, and ignorances, for the sake of our great Mediator and Advocate, who standeth at Thy right hand, to make intercession for us.

For Him, Thine unspeakable gift; for Christ Jesus, the blessed author of all our hopes; and for all the comforts of this life, and the expectations of the life to come; all glory, thanks, and praise be given unto Thee, O Father, who livest and reignest, with Thy Son, and the Holy Ghost, ever, world without end. Amen.

JENKS.

MONDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD, merciful and gracious, long-suffering and abundant in goodness and truth, Thou keepest mercy for thousands, Thou pardonest iniquity and transgression and sin, and dost not retain Thine anger for ever, because Thou delightest in mercy. How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O God! therefore do the sons of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings. And therefore do we still look up to Thy bountiful hand, from whence we evermore have received all our good things.

Look down upon us, O Lord our God, and be gracious and favourable to us, as Thou usest to be unto those that love Thy name. Look not upon the sins of our hearts and lives, which are more than we can remember, and greater than we can express; but behold us in mercy through the merits and mediation of Thy Son, our Saviour, who did no sin, and

was manifested that He might take away our sins.

And seeing that in Christ Jesus there is an infinite fulness of all that we can want or wish, grant that we may receive of His fulness grace sufficient for us; to pardon our sins and subdue our iniquities; to justify us freely, and sanctify us wholly; and so to transform us into the blessed image after which Thou didst create us, that we may be made meet to be partakers of the inheritance of Thy saints in light.

Teach us, O Lord our God, to use this world without abusing it, and to enjoy the things of it, without losing our part in Thy love, which is better than life. And whatsoever we want of the things of this life, O Lord our heavenly Father, leave us not destitute of those things that accompany salvation, but so replenish our souls with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may adorn the doctrine of Thy Son, our Saviour, in all things.

Help us, O gracious Lord, that, in the discharge of our duty to Thee and to all men, we may walk wisely toward them that are

without, and in love and charity to our brethren, giving no offence unto any, but, so far as in us lies, rendering help and service unto all. Let us pass the time of our sojourning here in Thy fear and favour, and to Thy honour and glory, to the praise of Thy Name, and the comfort of our souls in the hour of death, and in the great day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And as Thou hast renewed our lives and Thy mercies to us this morning, help us, good Lord, to renew our desires and endeavours to live in the obedience of Thy holy will. Restrain us from the evils and follies into which we are prone to fall; and quicken us to the offices and duties which we are slow to perform. Grant that we may think and speak, and will and do, the things which become the children of our heavenly Father; and may find the strong consolation of Thy gracious acceptance in Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whose Name we present our petitions unto Thee. Amen.

JENKS.

MONDAY EVENING.

O EVER-BLESSED and most gracious God, the Lord and Giver of our lives, to Thee do we owe ourselves, and all that we have. By Thee, O Lord, were we created, and through Thy good providence have we been preserved and provided for unto this present time. Thou, O God, art our help, and in Thee is all our hope.

We acknowledge Thy great and daily goodness to us, and our exceeding unworthiness. We take shame and confusion to ourselves, that we have so greatly abused Thy patience and Thy bounty. Grant, O Lord, that we being penitent and humbled for our sins, and entreating Thy gracious favour in Jesus Christ, may receive Thy pardon. Absolve us from all the evil whereof we are guilty before Thee, that we being justified by faith, may have peace with Thee through our Lord Jesus Christ. Make us followers of Thee, as

dear children, jealous over our hearts, and watchful over our ways, continually fearing to offend, and endeavouring to please Thee, and keeping our hearts with all diligence, that they be not hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Thou knowest, O Lord, our weakness, and our danger in temptation. We pray Thee, therefore, good Lord, that Thou wilt arm us with Thy whole armour, and uphold us with Thy free Spirit.

And seeing that Thou art pleased yet to hold our souls in life, with much patience and long-suffering enduring us, and with loving-kindness and manifold blessings still preventing and following us; give us, we beseech Thee, hearts more sensible of Thy love, and more thankful unto Thee for Thy continual favours. Help us to show forth Thy praise, not only in speaking good of Thy name, but so ordering our conversation as becometh the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To Thy mercy in Him, most merciful Father, we commend ourselves and all that we have, this night, beseeching Thee to preserve and defend, to bless and keep us, both in soul and body, from all evils and dangers.

Grant us comfortable repose, whereby our strength may be renewed, that we may rise again better fitted to serve Thee according to Thy will, if it shall please Thee to add another day to our lives. And as Thou addest days and mercies, be pleased also to add repentance and amendment, that we may be made more meet for Thy heavenly kingdom, and may be brought daily nearer to those everlasting joys which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And for all the good things that ever we have had, and do at present enjoy, and yet hope for from Thy bountiful hands, Thine, O blessed Lord our God, be the praise and honour and glory, offered up with grateful hearts, by us and Thy whole Church, now and for evermore. Amen.

JENKS.

TUESDAY MORNING.

BLESSED LORD, who hast so loved the world as to give Thine only-begotten Son, to the end that all who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life, mercifully look upon us miserable sinners. Reveal to us, by the Holy Ghost, the love and power of Jesus Christ our Lord. Thou hast declared that Thy Son shall be exalted, and extolled, and be very high; may He be so in our eyes more and more. Through faith in His name may we receive daily the pardon of our sins, and the comfort of Thy help, that we may abound in hope of the glory of God.

May the love of Christ constrain us to live to His honour, and to love one another; that being saved by the redemption that is in Him, we may be ready to forbear and forgive, putting far from us all anger, strife, and variance. Let a life of meekness, quietness, and peace be the fruit of our daily worship.

Make us who dwell together to be of one mind, and to build up each other in our most holy faith.

By Thy good providence, O heavenly Father, preserve us, if it please Thee, from all evil and mischief, from pain and sickness, and every other adversity. Give us grace to glorify Thee in tribulation. Establish us in Christ Jesus; seal us unto the day of redemption, and give unto us the earnest of Thy Spirit.

Be merciful, O Lord, to our relatives and friends; strengthen them to overcome by faith this present evil world; be Thou a guide to them all their days upon earth; and after death may they be received up into glory.

Make the nation to which we belong a people fearing Thy name. Enable Thy servant, our Sovereign, to reign over us in righteousness. Bless the Royal Family, and all who are put in authority over us. Visit, comfort, and deliver all who are in affliction or distress. Accept our praises for Thy perpetual goodness to us ever since we were born, for our sleep by night, for the pleasant

return of light and day, for the use of reason, and the means of grace. But, above all, for Thy chief mercy, and Thy unspeakable gift, Christ Jesus our Lord. With all that is within us would we bless His holy Name; ascribing to Him, with Thyself and the Holy Ghost, all honour and praise, might, majesty, and dominion, world without end. Amen.

VENN.

TUESDAY EVENING.

HOLY and ever-blessed Lord God, who hast made all things, and orderest all things by Thine infinite wisdom, Thou fillest heaven and earth with Thy presence, and from Thee proceedeth every good and perfect gift.

We approach unto Thee with contrite hearts, confessing our unworthiness. We have set at nought Thy threatenings and promises, and hardened our hearts under Thy chastisements. We cannot reckon up all our sins. Make us to perceive clearly that we, casting Thy words behind us, have been ungrateful and rebellious against Thee, and to feel that there is no remission of our sins but through faith in the blood of Thy Son. In Him may we be justified and have peace with Thee.

Vouchsafe, O God, to turn us from all iniquity. Create us again after Thine own image, that we may live to Thy praise. Let

it be the continual desire of our souls to obey and serve Thee. Bring to our remembrance the solemn account we must give, when the throne shall be set, and the books opened. May we, by faith in Christ, and knowledge of His glory, be ready for His appearing; that we, with all His saints, may triumph in that day, saying, Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him and He will save us; this is the Lord, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.

To Thy merciful protection, O God, we humbly commend ourselves this night. Defend our bodies, our souls, our dwellings, and our possessions. Give us, if it please Thee, refreshing sleep, that we may rise to serve Thee with strength of body and vigour of mind. And may we finally be admitted into that world, where there shall be no night, and where we shall receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In dependence upon His righteousness and everlasting intercession, we offer up unto Thee these our petitions. Amen.

VENN.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

GRACIOUS and glorious Lord, the eyes of all wait upon Thee; Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth. In Thee we live and move and have our being; Thou givest us life and breath, and all things. Thy mercies are daily bestowed upon us; Thy goodness is new every morning.

Blessed be Thy Name for the peace, rest, and safety of the night past. Enable us, in the strength of Thy grace and of Thy gifts, to love Thee truly, to serve Thee faithfully, and to depend on Thee without wavering. Give us grace to acknowledge Thee in all our ways, and be Thou graciously pleased to establish our goings, and to direct our paths. Grant us Thy fatherly protection, and the heavenly guidance of Thy good Spirit, to choose our inheritance for us, and to dispose of us, and all that belongs to us, to the glory of Thy great Name.

O Lord, withdraw not Thy tender mercies from us, neither shut up Thy loving-kindness in displeasure. Grant us the comfort of Thy help, and the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold us with Thy free Spirit. Leave us not to ourselves and to the dominion of our sins, but give us penitent hearts for all the evil committed by us, and Thy merciful forgiveness of all the guilt that lies upon us. Grant us, also, good Lord, the comfortable sense and apprehension of Thy free acceptance, and of Thy goodwill towards us in the Son of Thy love, that our hearts may bless Thee, and all that is within us may praise Thy holy Name.

O Lord, keep us from sin this day. Subdue our iniquities, and assist us with Thy grace, that we may exercise ourselves to have always a conscience void of offence, both towards Thee and towards men. Grant unto us a due supply of all things needful for us. Sanctify to us all our employments, our comforts, and our troubles; every condition of life, and every event that shall befall us. Grant that we, living to Thy honour and glory, may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not, nor forget the things eternal.

If Thou enlighten us not, we shall run into error; if Thou prevent not, we shall sink into sin; if Thou preserve not, we shall fall into danger. Let Thy good providence be our defence and security, and Thy Holy Spirit our comforter, guide, and counsellor, in all our ways, until through the merits of Thy Son, and the multitude of Thy mercies, we are received into Thine everlasting kingdom. Grant these petitions, we beseech Thee, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TOPLADY.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

WHEREWITH shall we come before Thee, O Lord, or bow ourselves in Thy presence, O Thou Most High God? Cause us to come unto Thee in faith, mentioning no other name, pleading no other righteousness, and trusting in no other atonement, than the name, righteousness, and atonement of Thy blessed Son, our adorable Mediator, Jesus Christ. In Him we desire to be found; through Him we hope for favour with Thee and acceptance in Thy sight.

Blessed be Thy goodness for the mercies of the day past, for the blessings of Thy providence, and for all the comforts and privileges we enjoy. We thank Thee that we have been protected from danger, and, above all, if we have been withheld by Thy grace from sinning against Thee.

O Lord wash out the transgressions of the past day. If Thou shouldest deal with us

after our sins, or reward us according to our deservings, we could not stand in Thy presence, nor be justified in Thy sight. But we bless Thee for the grace and mercy which Thou hast laid up for us in the righteousness, sacrifice, and intercession of Him who is our advocate with Thee, and the propitiation for our sins. Continue Thy goodness towards us this night; may we, as the beloved of the Lord, dwell in safety by Thee. Make us to rest under Thy defence, O Thou Most High, and to abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Bless us with Thy presence, Thy grace, and Thy protection. Suffer not the enemy to have any advantage over us; neither let the son of wickedness approach to hurt us.

Be with all Thy people everywhere; may those who are near and dear to us be near and dear to Thee; and whatever separation Thy good providence may ordain for us on earth, may we meet with joy at Thy right hand, at the appearing of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Bless all the nations. Maintain Thine own truth, and enlarge the kingdom of Thy Son.

Regard with favour the Church to which we belong, the vine which Thine own right hand hath planted. Bless our Sovereign and every branch of the Royal Family. Pour down Thy grace upon all orders and degrees of men among us, that they may be fearers of God, lovers of truth, and workers of righteousness. Strengthen and relieve those who labour under any affliction in mind, body, or estate, and make all things to work together for their good.

We beseech Thee to hear us, and grant us these and all other mercies, spiritual and temporal, only for the sake of Jesus Christ the righteous. Amen.

TOPLADY.

THURSDAY MORNING.

MOST glorious and gracious God, whose kind providence has protected us through the night, and brought us in peace to the morning of another day; assist us, we beseech Thee, to present our unfeigned praises and thanksgivings, and to unite in prayer and supplication before Thy mercy-seat.

But who are we, O Thou high and lofty One, that inhabitest eternity, that we should venture into Thy awful presence, before whom the Seraphim veil their faces? We have been guilty of ingratitude for all Thy bounties, and of multiplied acts of rebellion against Thee, our Creator. We have forsaken Thee, the fountain of living waters; we have rejected Thy easy yoke; we have refused Thee the reasonable tribute of worship and love; we have broken Thy commandments in thought, word, and deed, and

have abused Thy gifts, to the dishonour of Thy name.

If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquity, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, and plenteous redemption in Thy beloved Son. Through His atoning sacrifice and prevailing intercession we approach Thy throne of grace; uniting our confessions with faith and hope, and blessing Thee for these unspeakable benefits. Grant us true repentance and living faith; convince us more deeply of our sinfulness; and discover to us everything in our hearts and lives which displeases Thee, that we may approach Thee in humbleness of mind, and with sincere desires for the blessings which we ask. Enlighten our understandings, that we may perceive all the glory of Thy Gospel, and know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent. May Thy holy Word be written in our hearts, and bring forth fruit in our lives and conversation. Uphold our goings in Thy ways, that our footsteps slip not. May we be clothed with humility, walk before Thee with vigilance and circumspection, and serve Thee

in the spirit of adoption. While we have time, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them that are of the household of faith. May Thy grace teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world. May we be content with such things as we have, and watch against covetousness, anger, envy, and all other evil passions. May we be the followers of the lowly Jesus; may we walk as He walked, in wisdom towards all around us; using all our talents to the glory of Thy Name, and waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

We beseech Thee, O Father of mercies, to look graciously upon our beloved friends and relatives. Bring home such as are still wandering from Thy fold, and give help and comfort to those who know Thy name, and love Thy salvation. Bless all the ministers of Thy Gospel; send forth more labourers into Thy harvest, and prosper every effort to send the light of Thy Gospel to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Purify, bless, and enlarge Thy Church, and fill the earth with the glory of Thy Name.

Have mercy on our land, and continue to us the light of Thy truth. Bless our Sovereign, and direct all who are employed in public affairs to the choice of such measures as shall promote Thy glory. Overrule all changes in kingdoms and nations, to the furtherance of Thy Gospel and the establishment of Thy kingdom.

Hear us, we beseech Thee, in these our prayers and supplications, and be with us in all the employments of the day, teaching us to act continually as under Thine eye, and as becomes Thy redeemed people. All these mercies we ask, for the sake and through the mediation of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with Thee, O Father, and the blessed Spirit, we would ascribe all honour, praise, and adoration. Amen.

SCOTT.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O MOST glorious God, with whom a thousand years are as one day, and who dwellest in the light which no man can approach unto, teach us so to meditate on the shortness and uncertainty of temporal things, and on the reality and importance of things eternal, that we may live as strangers and pilgrims on earth, and may seek a heavenly inheritance with our warmest affections, and most persevering diligence.

Enable us, O Lord, to mark Thy hand, and to submit to Thy righteousness, in the chastisement of our sins and in all the troubles of this life. Give us such a knowledge of Thy holy law, and of its spiritual demands, that we may discern our exceeding sinfulness, and humble ourselves before Thee in unfeigned repentance. Grant, also, that we may believe Thy Gospel with living faith, and come unto Thee, the fountain of life and

felicity, through our great High Priest, who ever liveth to make intercession for us. And give us such confidence in Thy pardoning mercy, and such love, gratitude, and zeal, as may quicken us to unreserved obedience, and make us stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of our Lord.

We commend ourselves and all that belongs to us, to Thy gracious protection. Thou art ever present, and knowest all things; Thy majesty and condescension, Thy justice and compassion, are infinite and adorable. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as Head over all. But we are exposed to countless dangers, and cannot defend ourselves. Be Thou our strong tower, and help us to take refuge under the shadow of Thy wings. Preserve us, we beseech Thee, from outward calamities, and from the assaults of our spiritual enemies. Spare us, if it be Thy good pleasure, to awake in peace, and to arise in health, that we, evermore serving Thee with gratitude and devotion, may wait all the days of our appointed time, until our change come, with humble submission, continued watchfulness,

and patient continuance in well-doing. Grant us, gracious Father, these and all other mercies, for the sake of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, whom, with Thee and the Eternal Spirit, we would adore, as the God of our salvation, both now and evermore. Amen.

SCOTT.

FRIDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we Thine unworthy servants bless and thank Thee for Thy gracious protection during the past night, and for the renewed gift of life this morning. We gratefully acknowledge Thy bounty in our temporal provision, the comfort of friends and domestic peace, the security and tranquillity which we enjoy in this land. We confess, O Lord, that we are unworthy of the least of these Thy mercies; and we beseech Thee to give us grace that we may show our unfeigned gratitude by willing service, and a right use of all Thy benefits.

But especially we are bound to bless and praise Thy holy Name, O most gracious Father, for the salvation provided for us in Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Enable us to give such diligence in making our calling and election sure, that we may be always confident; knowing that when we shall be absent

from the body, we shall be present with Thee in glory. Grant that we, not resting in a form of godliness, or deceiving ourselves, may be stirred up to seek first Thy kingdom and Thy righteousness.

Teach us, O merciful God, to serve Thee in our several occupations, doing all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and using our possessions, or employing our talents, as those who must give account. Grant us, O Thou fountain of life, such consolations, in communion with Thee, as may deliver us from the fear of the world, and fix our affections on things above.

Teach us also to profit by all Thy rebukes and chastisements, that every pain and sorrow may serve to humble us, to wean us from earthly things, to embitter sin, to endear the love of our suffering Redeemer, to soften our hearts into compassion towards the afflicted, and to bow our wills into submission to Thine appointments. And as Thou, O glorious Lord of all, art pleased to permit us to call Thee our heavenly Father, grant us grace, we entreat Thee, to testify fully that we are Thy children, by the exercise of all filial affections,

and the sacred influence of the Spirit of adoption. Let it be the desire of our inmost souls that Thy name may be hallowed, Thy kingdom established, and Thy will done on earth as it is by the inhabitants of heaven.

We pray that Thy blessed Gospel may be effectually preached to all the nations that sit in darkness. Give wisdom and zeal for the accomplishment of this great design. Raise up, qualify, and send forth under Thy special protection, proper instruments for this service. Pour out Thy Spirit from on high upon the nations, that mountains may flow down at Thy presence, and all difficulties be removed. Prepare the way for Thy glorious grace, by purifying the whole visible Church from all superstition, false doctrine, and unchristian practice; by uniting believers in holy love and harmony; and by rendering all pastors of Thy flock wise, humble, faithful, zealous, and laborious. Stay the progress of infidelity and apostasy, and raise up able champions for Thy truth, who may contend earnestly and effectually for the faith once delivered unto the saints.

Give us grace, we beseech Thee, to enter

on the employments of this day, in submission and obedience to Thy will, and dependence on Thy grace. May we be preserved from the snares of the world, and defended against the assaults of Satan; may we watch over our hearts, govern our passions, and bridle our tongues; and may we be helped by Thee in all things to glorify Thy name, through Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.

SCOTT.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O GOD, the Giver of every good gift, the Father of mercies, and God of all consolation, accept, we beseech Thee, at the close of this day, our unfeigned thanksgivings for the continuance of our lives, our health, our senses, and all our powers, for the protection and provision which Thou hast hitherto afforded us, and for all the benefits we enjoy. But, above all, we are bound to thank Thee for the redemption of the world by Thy beloved Son, and for all the blessings of the new covenant, which He purchased by His death, and is exalted at Thy right hand to bestow on all that believe. We thank Thee for Thy Word and for the preaching of Thy Gospel, and for all the spiritual blessings which Thou hast bestowed upon us. We praise Thee for Thy long-suffering towards us, for delivering us in dangers, for recovering us from sickness, even though we have used our lives and health in

sinning still more against Thee. It is of Thy mercies that we are not consumed, because Thy compassions fail not. Help us, we humbly pray Thee, not only to offer our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving, but to present ourselves also as living sacrifices, devoted to Thy glory, and to bless and thank Thee by unreserved obedience.

Grant, O Lord, that we remembering the sufferings of the divine Saviour, who bare our sins in His own body on the tree, and looking to Him whom we have pierced, may mourn for our transgressions with unfeigned sorrow. Grant that we, being deeply penitent, may crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts, and may be constrained by the love of Christ to live to His glory. May we daily learn at His cross, self-denial, deadness to the world, patience, meekness, forgiveness, humility; so that, renouncing for His sake our own ease and interest, we may serve all those whom He condescends to call His brethren. May we learn to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and looking to Him who endured the cross and despised the shame,

may we never be weary or faint under any trials or discouragements.

Help us, O gracious God, so to examine our ways, and renew our repentance this night, that we may have peace with Thee and our consciences through the atoning blood. Extinguish in us every motion of resentment or corrupt affection which has been stirred up in us this day, that we may rest in perfect charity with all mankind.

And while we commend ourselves, O gracious Father, to Thy protection this night, teach us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom; and grant that whether we live or die, we may be Thine for ever. Hear us, we humbly beseech Thee, and give us more than we can ask or think, according to the riches of Thy mercy in Christ Jesus; for whom we bless Thy name, and to whom, with Thyself and the eternal Spirit, we ascribe all glory, praise, adoration, and thanksgiving, now and for evermore. Amen.

SCOTT.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dwellest in the heavens, but beholdest with compassion the inhabitants of the earth, look down with pity and kindness upon us, Thy creatures, now kneeling at Thy footstool.

Call us not to account for our sins and transgressions; remember not against us our past or present iniquities, but for Thy Son Jesus Christ's sake, pardon and heal us.

Hear our prayers in mercy this morning: incline Thine ear to our supplications. We look to Thee alone for help and comfort: disappoint not our hope; send us not empty away.

Thou knowest, O Lord, our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; have pity upon us, and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of Thy Son, Jesus

Christ our Lord. Blessed be Thy name, that in Him all fulness dwells; fulness of pardon, peace, and holiness. O supply our wants out of that fulness, and may we daily receive from Him all needful grace and strength.

Pardon our backwardness to ask for these blessings; our indifference about spiritual things; our too great eagerness after the things of this world. Our souls cleave unto the dust; O quicken us according to Thy word. As Thou hast raised us this morning from sleep, do Thou quicken us from our spiritual slumber, sloth, and negligence. Send down Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts. Make us more lively in every duty, and more vigorous in the way of Thy precepts. Enable us to lay aside every weight, and to run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Make us unfeignedly thankful for His death and passion; His resurrection, ascension, and intercession. Grant that we may be partakers of the benefits of His mediation. Remember us, O Lord Jesus, who art now entered into Thy kingdom.

Accept this our morning tribute of praise, for the favours of the past night. How great is Thy goodness! Bless the Lord, O our souls; and all that is within us, bless His holy name.

Into Thy hands we commit ourselves this day. Keep us by Thy power from sin and danger. Guide us in the path of duty. Keep our tongues from evil, and our lips that they speak no guile. Uphold us, that our footsteps slip not. Defend us against our spiritual adversaries, and make us to rejoice in Thy salvation. We ask all for Jesus Christ's sake, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

KNIGHT.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O LORD God Almighty, great and glorious art Thou! help us to approach Thee, at all times, with reverence and godly fear. Thou madest all things, and for Thy pleasure they are, and were created. Thou upholdest all things by Thy mighty power, ruling over the armies of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. None may say unto Thee, What doest Thou?

Lord, what is man, that Thou shouldest be mindful of him, or the son of man that Thou shouldest visit him! Yet hast Thou been mindful of us, and hast most graciously visited us, in our helpless, lost, and ruined state. Thou hast given Thy only-begotten and well-beloved Son to be a ransom for our sins, to suffer death upon the cross, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us near unto Thee.

Raise up, we pray Thee, Thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us. Quicken us from our spiritual drowsiness and insensibility. Give us a more lively sense of Thy mercies, and hearts more grateful to Thee for them.

We confess before Thee, that we are too much attached to things below; that worldly affairs attract and engage our minds; and that through our sins and wickedness we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us. O let Thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us.

May we not be of the number of those who walk in darkness, and only mind earthly things; but may we live as those whose conversation is in heaven, and who seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at Thy right hand.

Graciously accept our thanks for the continuance of Thy kindness through another day. To Thee we are indebted for every comfort we have received, and every peril we have escaped. Take us now, we beseech Thee, under Thy care and keeping this night. Pardon the sins of this day, and of our whole

lives. Spread now Thy wing over us, so shall no harm happen to us.

Remember all for whom we are bound to pray. Bless all the ministers of Thy Word. Water them abundantly with the dew of Thy blessing. Deliver them from the fear of man, from seeking the applause of men, and from preaching themselves, or any other thing, but only Christ Jesus the Lord. Pardon our schisms, divisions, and want of brotherly love. Heal the breaches of Thy people; build the walls of Thy Church, and so strengthen them, that the gates of hell may not prevail. Pity the sick and afflicted, relieve the destitute; be the Father of the fatherless, and the God of the widow; and do for us, and for all for whom we pray, more than we can ask or think, for our Lord and Saviour's sake. To whom, with Thyself and the Holy Spirit, be equal and everlasting praise. Amen.

KNIGHT.

SHORT PRAYERS

TO BE ADDED ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

BLESSING, and honour, and glory, and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever. O Lord God of our salvation, Thou hast remembered us in our low estate, out of Thy mercy that endureth for ever. Thou hast raised up a great salvation, and a mighty deliverance for us, to heal the sinful, to help the miserable, and to save that which was lost. We bless and magnify Thee for the designs of Thy love, and the counsels of Thy wisdom, that God should be manifested in the flesh, to destroy the works of the devil; and that the eternally beloved of Thy soul

should be made the son of man, to make us the children of God.

O Lord our God, who hast laid help upon One that is mighty, and found a ransom for us, help us to entertain and welcome the joyful news. Prepare us for the blessed Saviour; that He who came into the world in the fulness of time, may come into our souls with the fulness of His grace, and with all the blessings and consolations of His coming.

O blessed Saviour, be Thou an effectual Saviour unto us, and so save us from our sins, that Thou mayest also save us from the wrath to come. So redeem us here from all iniquity, that hereafter Thou mayest redeem us from everlasting misery. And for all the great things which Thou hast so graciously done for us, unto Thee, O blessed God our Saviour, in the unity of the ever-glorious Trinity, be all thanks and praise and honour and glory rendered by us and all Thy Church, now and for evermore.

JENKS.

GOOD FRIDAY.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who wast begotten of the Father before all worlds, very God of very God; who wast conceived by the Holy Ghost, and in the fulness of time born of the Virgin Mary; who being obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, hast delivered us by Thy holy and precious blood; and having destroyed the power of death hast opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers; we earnestly beseech Thee, O Lord our God, who sittest at the right hand of the Father Almighty, that of Thine infinite mercy, and through Thy cross and passion, Thou wilt redeem us miserable sinners, who are worthy of death, from all our sins and iniquities; and deliver us from all evils, past, present, and to come, and mortify in us all evil affections, both of body and soul. Raise us up with Thee, we beseech Thee, by Thy glorious power, that we desiring and

seeking after those things which are above, may attain to the glory of everlasting felicity, through Thy infinite mercy, O Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, the Creator of all things, who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest in the unity of the Godhead, world without end. Amen.

ALCUIN.

EASTER DAY.

O MOST HOLY, most glorious Saviour and Redeemer, who for our sake didst descend from the glories of heaven to the pains and labours of the earth, and didst pass from a painful life to an ignominious death, from the bitterness of death to the darkness of the grave, and by Thy divine power didst raise Thyself from death to life again, we give Thee thanks for Thine infinite love to us and all mankind. We acknowledge Thee to be our Lord, and confess Thee to be our God. We adore Thy majesty, and rejoice in Thy mercy, and we humbly pray Thee to enable us, by Thy Spirit, to believe all Thy doctrines, and to obey all Thy commandments, that after a holy and religious life, spent in doing honour to Thy holy Name, we may be partakers of Thy holy resurrection, passing from death to life, from the darkness of the grave

to the light of heaven, from imperfect service to the perfection of holiness in the fruition of the joys of God in Thy eternal kingdom, O most holy, most glorious Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

ASCENSION DAY.

O BLESSED High Priest, Holy Jesus, King of the world, and Head of the Church, who, when Thou hadst taken upon Thee our nature and our sin, and appeased Thy Father's wrath, and performed all His will, and overcome death, and rescued all obedient souls from the hand of the enemy, didst ascend to Thy eternal Father, and open the kingdom of heaven to all believers; Thou hast a feeling of our infirmities, and art our merciful High Priest, making intercession for us for ever. Oh, be pleased to represent and supply all our wants, excuse all our infirmities, pity all our calamities, pardon our sins, and send down Thy Holy Spirit of grace into our hearts, that though we walk upon the earth, yet our conversation may be in heaven, and there also may be our portion and inheritance for ever, through Thy mercies, O most gracious Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

WHITSUNDAY.

O ETERNAL GOD, the great Father of Spirits, the great Lover of souls, who didst send Thy Holy Spirit upon Thy Church in the day of Pentecost, and hast promised that He shall abide with the Church for ever; let Thy Holy Spirit lead us into all truth, defend us from all sin, enrich us with His gifts, refresh us with His comforts, rule in our hearts for ever, conduct us with His truth, and lead us in the way everlasting; that we, living by Thy Spirit and walking in Him, may by Him be sealed unto the day of our redemption. Let Thy Spirit witness to our spirits that we are the children of God; and keep us so for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

BISHOP JEREMY TAYLOR.

FOR A SICK PERSON.

O LORD our heavenly Father, we implore Thy grace and favour towards Thy servant who is sick. Work in *him* a true and hearty repentance for all the sins *he* hath committed, in thought, word, or deed, against Thy Divine Majesty. Give *him* a lively and stedfast faith in Thy Son Jesus Christ, who died for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. Fill *him* with a reviving hope of that immortal life, which He hath purchased and promised; and with a grateful sense of Thy fatherly love to *him*, and tender care over *him*. Vouchsafe unto *him* heavenly supports and comforts from above; and bestow on *him* perfect patience and absolute submission to Thee during this sickness.

We know that there is nothing impossible with Thee, but that if Thou wilt Thou canst raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer

continuance in this world. May it be Thy gracious pleasure to restore *him* to us. May it please Thee to save and deliver *him*, for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Bless all the means that are used for *his* preservation, and make them effectual. And in the meantime help *him* meekly to resign *himself* to Thy wisdom, and humbly to confide in Thy loving-kindness; and quietly to wait upon Thee for ease and refreshment at present, and for perfect health and strength at last; which we earnestly beseech Thee, in Thy good time, to bestow upon *him*, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, the healer and repairer of our decayed nature, the Saviour both of soul and body, and our compassionate intercessor with Thee.

BISHOP PATRICK.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE RECOVERY OF A FRIEND.

MOST gracious and holy, good and merciful God, we have heard, we have seen, we have experienced Thy love. Thou hast not made Thyself known to us by the judgments which our sins have deserved; but art manifested to us as a God willing to forgive all our iniquities. Thou hast delivered our eyes from tears, and our hearts from anguish; and in Thy mercy hast spared Thy servant whom Thou hadst lately afflicted. Thou hast chastened and corrected *him*, but Thou hast not delivered *him* over unto death. Thou, Lord, hast turned our mourning into joy, and our fears into songs of praise.

May this Thy servant, whom Thou hast spared, love Thee more, and walk more perfectly before Thee in the land of the living. Perfect, we beseech Thee, *his* recovery; and grant unto *him*, and to every one of us in

this family, a due sense of Thy mercy and compassion; that henceforth we may depend on Thee more entirely for the preservation of our earthly comforts, and may consider them as Thy free gifts, O Lord, who art the only Giver of all good things.

We again present ourselves, with all we have, and all we are, a lively sacrifice unto Thee for all our remaining days. Be with us when we are passing through the valley of the shadow of death. Guard us that we may fear no evil, and bring us safe to Thine eternal kingdom and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

VENN.

AFTER THE DEATH OF A FRIEND.

WE adore Thee, O Lord, we bow our wills to Thee, whose judgments are unsearchable, and whose ways are past finding out. We believe Thou intendest to do us good, even by denying our earnest desires. We will bless Thee therefore at all times. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

The cup which our Father hath given us, shall we not drink it? We take it humbly from Thy hands, O God, and submit to Thy wise dispensation. We return to Thee again that which Thou so lovingly bestowedst upon us, heartily thanking Thee for the same, and beseeching Thee to pardon our ingratitude.

Grant us Thy grace, O Lord, that we forget not all Thy benefits: especially Thy great love, Thy exceeding great love in Christ Jesus, by whom Thou hast provided a remedy for all our griefs, and hast comforted us with

the hope of another and better life, where there is no death, nor any pain or sorrow, but all tears shall be wiped away from our eyes.

To Thee we flee, O blessed Jesus, who art our best and our eternal Friend; to Thee who knowest our frame, and canst have compassion on our infirmities; most humbly beseeching Thee to sustain us under this sore affliction in a thankful remembrance of all Thy mercies. Draw up our hearts thereby more towards heaven where Thou our life art; where we hope that *he* whom Thou hast taken is; and where we hope to be when Thou shalt call us away from hence: there to sing Thy praises with eternal joy, in the company of all Thy saints, and of the holy angels.

BISHOP PATRICK.

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